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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Public Law 825—81st Congress

Chapter 1005—2nd Session

H. R. 5679

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## DIGEST OF PUBLIC LAW 825

TRANSFER OF LANDS. To authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes.

### INDEX AND SUMMARY OF HISTORY ON H.R. 5679

May 13, 1949      Hearing: House.. Subcommittee No. 3 of The Committee on Agriculture. 81st Congress. Transfer of Agricultural Dry land and Irrigation Field Stations.

July 18, 1949      Mr. Granger introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture. Print of Bill as introduced.

August 3, 1949      House reported on H.R. 5679 without amendment. Report 1181. Print of bill as reported.

August 16, 1949      Referred to Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee. Print of the bill as referred.

June 60, 1950      Reported with amendment. Senate Report 1847. Print of bill as reported.

July 26, 1950      Passed Senate as reported.

September 1, 1950      Agriculture Committee agreed to approve Senate amendments.

September 13, 1950      House concurred in Senate amendment.

September 23, 1950      Approved. Public Law 825







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Division of Legislative Reports

Office of Budget and Finance

# TRANSFER OF AGRICULTURAL DRY LAND AND IRRIGATION FIELD STATIONS

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## HEARING

BEFORE

SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 3 OF

THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIRST CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

**H. R. 3715 (Superseded by H. R. 5679)**

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Serial FF

MAY 13, 1949

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Printed for the use of the Committee on Agriculture



11

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### SUBCOMMITTEE No. 3 OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

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Failure to overcome this situation will necessitate temporary discontinuance of the Division's expenditures in cooperative investigations at all State-owned dry land and irrigation field stations not later than December 31, 1946, and also the temporary discontinuance of long-time work or projects at Federal field stations before the close of the fiscal year 1946-47.

#### *Recommendations*

The special committee appreciates the budget situation which confronts the Division of Soils, Fertilizers, and Irrigation, and recommends that the director of the agricultural experiment station in each State concerned give immediate consideration to budgetary adjustments that may be made during the current fiscal year which will assist the Division in completing the year with a minimum of disturbance to long-time experiments at the field stations. The most practical way to meet this situation is for the State to assume a substantial portion of the Division's salary obligations at the stations in its State during the remainder of the fiscal year. After studying the situation as applying to field stations in your State, please write Dr. B. T. Shaw indicating what may be done.

The committee recommends that the Bureau make further study of the budgets of Federal field stations to determine if additional economies in operation can be accomplished.

#### II. TRANSFER OF FEDERAL FIELD STATIONS TO STATE OWNERSHIP

In presenting its annual budget requests to the Bureau of the Budget and to Congress, the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering reports increasing difficulty in justifying the Federal Government's continued operation of the dry land and irrigation field stations where primary concern is with local problems. Transfer of these field stations to the States and the concentration of the Bureau's efforts on these phases of the work having regional significance have been strongly urged.

#### *Recommendations*

Without committing any State, the special committee approves in principle the transfer of ownership of Federal field stations to the States in which they are located. (Exceptions are Mandan field station in North Dakota; Cheyenne horticultural station in Wyoming; and Woodward field station in Oklahoma.) The committee also approves the administration of the field stations which may be thus transferred by the directors of the State agricultural experiment stations, and insofar as possible the continuance of cooperation with the Division of Soils, Fertilizers, and Irrigation in conducting soil-management research.

Further, the special committee recommends a program of orderly transfer of Federal field stations to State ownership over a period of 5 to 10 years, giving due consideration to the preservation of long-time experiments for more complete analysis of results, and to the protection of the retirement rights of Federal employees concerned.

#### III. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

In order that the maximum value may be derived from the long-time experiments conducted to date in the various States, and in order that more effective programs of cooperative soil management research may be developed between the Division of Soils, Fertilizers, and Irrigation and the States in the future, there must be a clear understanding between the cooperating agencies provided by an over-all memorandum of understanding and individual cooperative agreements.

#### *Recommendations*

The special committee recommends that the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, through the Division of Soils, Fertilizers, and Irrigation cooperate with the directors of the State agricultural experiment stations concerned in preparing an over-all memorandum of understanding which will outline concisely (1) the objectives of a program of cooperative soil management research adapted to the irrigated and nonirrigated lands of the West; (2) the several research activities of field stations, including the regional stations, which may have a place in, or be a part of, a regional soil management research program; and (3) the responsibilities of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering and the State agricultural experiment stations in carrying out the work of these field stations. The committee expresses the hope that the proposed over-all memorandum of understanding may be ready for final consid-

eration and approval by State station directors concerned at the annual convention in Chicago in December 1946.

The special committee recommends that each State station director concerned take the initiative in developing a memorandum of understanding between his station and the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering to cover the research objectives and procedures mutually agreed upon as applicable to his particular State.

#### IV. REPORT ON DRY LAND AND IRRIGATION FIELD STATIONS AND PROPOSED REGIONAL SOIL MANAGEMENT RESEARCH

The Division of Soils, Fertilizers, and Irrigation has prepared and distributed to its field station personnel and to the special committee a report on the dry land and irrigation field stations and proposed regional program of soil management research.

##### *Recommendation*

The special committee recommends that a copy of this report be sent by the Division to the director of the Agricultural Experiment Station in each State in which dry land and irrigation field stations are located.

#### V. CONFERENCE OF AGRONOMISTS AND STATION DIRECTORS WITH DIVISION REPRESENTATIVES TO AID IN FORMULATING REGIONAL PROGRAM OF SOIL MANAGEMENT RESEARCH

##### *Recommendation*

The special committee recommends that the Division of Soils, Fertilizers, and Irrigation take the initiative in establishing a policy of holding regional conferences of State project leaders with Division representatives, as may be necessary, for the purpose of developing a more closely coordinated program of regional soil management research applicable to dry land and irrigation agriculture.

CLYDE MCKEE, *Chairman*,  
J. A. HILL, Wyoming,  
R. E. DICKSON, Texas,  
W. A. SCHOENFELD, Oregon,  
R. I. THROCKMORTON, Kansas,  
H. L. WALSTER, North Dakota.

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[H. R. 3715, 81st Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized, at such times as he deems appropriate, to convey by appropriate conveyances, without consideration, the interest of the United States in the lands, including water rights, buildings, and improvements presently comprising or appurtenant to the following dry land and irrigation field stations, to the States in which such stations are located, when, in the opinion of the Secretary of Agriculture, the transfer of any such station will result in establishing a more effective program in the cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Department of Agriculture and the respective State and the furtherance of agricultural experimental work on a national or regional basis will be better served by such transfer: Akron, Colorado; Huntley, Montana; Mitchell, Nebraska; Fallon, Nevada; Tucumcari, New Mexico; Lawton, Oklahoma; Hermiston, Oregon; Newell, South Dakota; Big Spring, Texas; Dalhart, Texas; Sheridan, Wyoming: Provided, That when any or all of the land, including water rights, comprising any such station is public-domain land, only the Secretary of the Interior may by patent or other appropriate conveyance transfer such lands to the respective States: Provided further, That when any easement necessary to a station conveyed or patented hereunder is on public-domain lands, only the Secretary of the Interior may grant such easements to the State to which the station has been conveyed.*

*SEC. 2. Conveyances or patents hereunder shall be upon such conditions as in the opinion of the Secretary of Agriculture will assure the use of such station in the cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Department of Agriculture and the respective State: Provided, That if the Secretary of Agriculture, with*

the concurrence of the Secretary of the Interior, which decision shall be final, determines in writing that any portion of said lands of a particular station that is situated on public-domain lands is no longer being used for such cooperative experimental work, a reverter of such portion of said lands shall become effective upon the filing by the Secretary of Agriculture with the proper official of the appropriate county for recordation, a declaration that a reverter to the United States has occurred for such reason and upon the service of a copy thereof upon the appropriate State official by regular mail. Where a particular station is not situated on public-domain lands, a determination by the Secretary of Agriculture that such a reversion has occurred shall not require the concurrence of the Secretary of the Interior. Any such conveyances of the land shall contain a reservation to the United States of all the minerals in the land together with the right to prospect for, mine, and remove the same under such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe: *Provided further*, That, with the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture, and the concurrence of the Secretary of the Interior with respect to any public-domain lands involved, the State concerned may dispose of, by sale or otherwise, the lands involved at the station and continue such station on other lands which shall become subject to the restrictions of this section: *Provided further*, That, in any event, in the case of a reverter under this section the State may with the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture, and the concurrence of the Secretary of the Interior with respect to any public-domain lands involved retain for its use such portion of the station as is reasonably necessary for its continued enjoyment of improvements thereon: *And provided further*, That in such event the State shall pay to the United States the fair value of such lands exclusive of the improvements.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
Washington 25, D. C., May 16, 1949.

Hon. HAROLD D. COOLEY,

*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,  
House of Representatives.*

MY DEAR MR. COOLEY: We are glad to comply with your committee's request for an expression of this Department's views on H. R. 3715, which is entitled "A bill to authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes."

Enactment of legislation along the lines of H. R. 3715 is recommended:

For many years the Bureau of Reclamation has been cooperating with the agricultural agencies of the United States Department of Agriculture and with the State agricultural colleges in furtherance of research and extension programs to develop and disseminate information, to the end of aiding project settlers in successful settlement in the service areas of Federal reclamation projects. As a part of that program, experiment stations were established in several States to serve reclamation projects in those States. Because the work done at those stations is primarily beneficial to local areas, rather than of broad national application, the United States Department of Agriculture considers that those stations should be incorporated in the State college organizations. This Department is desirous of facilitating any arrangements that the Department of Agriculture and the State colleges concerned consider to be conducive to improved operation of the agricultural experiment program.

The bill as now written provides that, in the event a particular station that is situated on public domain lands is not used for cooperative experimental work, it shall revert to the United States. The policy that has generally been advocated by this Department and adopted by the Congress is that public lands transferred to States for specific purposes should revert to the public domain when no longer used for these purposes. That policy is sound, because it precludes alienation of the public domain for purposes other than the public interest. I consider that this well-established policy should be maintained generally as a suitable safeguard. However, the case of the experiment stations listed in H. R. 3715 is an exception to the general policy. Relatively small tracts of land are involved, long-term experimental programs are carried on, and major expenditures will have to be made by the States for buildings and other improvements on the land. In these circumstances, I consider that it would serve the public interest if the Congress should authorize, without reservation as to reversion, transfer to the States of the

withdrawn public lands and lands acquired by this Department that are already incorporated as a part of the established experiment stations to which H. R. 3715 would be applicable. It is, therefore, recommended that the provision of the bill relative to reversion be eliminated.

Due to the imminence of hearings, this report has not been submitted to the Bureau of the Budget. Therefore, no commitment can be made regarding the relationship of the views expressed herein to the program of the President.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM E. WARNE,  
*Acting Secretary of the Interior.*

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
Washington, D. C., April 4, 1949.

Hon. HAROLD D. COOLEY,

*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, House of Representatives.*

DEAR MR. COOLEY: This is in reply to your request of March 25, 1949, for a report on H. R. 3715, a bill to authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes.

The bill would permit the Secretary of Agriculture or, when the lands concerned are public domain, the Secretary of the Interior, to effectuate the transfer when, in the opinion of the Secretary of Agriculture, the transfer would result in establishing a more effective program in the cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Department of Agriculture and the State and in the furtherance of agricultural experimental work on a national or regional basis.

The bill further provides that any transfer shall be upon such conditions as will assure the use of the station in such cooperative agricultural experimental work. The Secretary of Agriculture may waive the observance of such conditions when in his opinion, a station is no longer needed in such cooperative work. All mineral rights would be reserved to the United States.

The irrigation field stations concerned were originally established on reclamation projects primarily as demonstration farms. The dry land field stations concerned were established in the dry land area of the Middle West to meet the need for information incident to settlement of the Great Plains area, by assembling information as to the limits of particular agriculture and the kinds of farming suitable for various areas. Generally, the stations are engaged in cooperative work with the agricultural experiment stations of the States in which located. A great deal of the fundamental information necessary has now been assembled by these stations and the need for soil research and specialized experimentation has gradually displaced the earlier type of demonstration and testing activities carried on at these stations. With increasing costs, the maintenance and operation of these stations would absorb funds otherwise available for adequate soil research and associated problems in agricultural technology. The question of how best to fit these stations into a comprehensive program of research, including soils investigations and other advancements in land utilization and conservation, has been discussed by representatives of this Department with the directors of the agricultural experiment stations in the area and a special committee of such directors has recommended the transfer of these stations to the respective States where the work being carried on at such stations is primarily concerned with local problems. In addition to the provision in the bill with respect to terms and conditions of transfer requiring the continued use of the stations in cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Department of Agriculture, this Department, prior to the time of the transfer of any station, proposes to enter into a memorandum of understanding with each State concerned which would provide for the continuation of the research work of the field station on a cooperative basis.

The enactment of the bill would make possible a more comprehensive and intensive program of soil research and related problems, since the Department of Agriculture would be relieved of the cost of maintaining and operating such stations, thus permitting the use of Federal funds for continuing research on a national or regional basis. Such transfer would not adversely affect the present research programs being conducted at such stations but would assure an integration of such stations into the national and regional research programs without cost to the Federal Government in connection with their maintenance and operation.

This Department recommends that the bill be passed.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that, from the standpoint of the program of the President, there is no objection to the enactment of this proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

CHARLES F. BRANNAN,  
*Secretary.*

**STATEMENT OF F. W. PARKER, ASSISTANT CHIEF, BUREAU OF  
PLANT INDUSTRY, SOILS, AND AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING,  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Mr. PARKER. H. R. 3715 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer certain Federal field stations to the State agricultural experiment stations or other appropriate State agencies. I might say that the Department has submitted a report on the bill approving it, and I have before me a map showing the location of the stations involved.

The stations involved are at Akron, Colo.; Huntley, Mont.; Mitchell, Nebr.; Fallon, Nev.; Tucumcari, N. Mex.; Lawton, Okla.; Hermiston, Oreg.; Newell, S. Dak.; Big Spring, Tex.; Dalhart, Tex.; and Sheridan, Wyo. They are underlined on the map included in the record.

Mr. McMILLAN. Do you have any stations in the Southern States, or are all of them out in the West?

Mr. PARKER. The Bureau does operate some other stations in the Southern States; yes.

Mr. McMILLAN. But there is no request to transfer those?

Mr. PARKER. There is no request for those.

The federally owned stations are marked in red and black on this large map. The stations marked in black with a triangle in the record are State-operated stations at which we are working in cooperation with the States. All of the stations involved were established in the period 1906 to 1916 when that portion of the country was undergoing rapid development and when State experiment stations themselves were not in a position to render the service that was needed in considerable areas of their own States. Two classes of stations were established. One included stations on irrigated lands, where the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, had developed irrigation projects like the one at Fallon, Nev., or the project around Scottsbluff, Nebr. The other group of stations are dry land stations in the Great Plains area where limited rainfall makes crop production hazardous.

The problems at that time were very broad. They related to tillage methods, the use of water in irrigation, the introduction of crops that were suitable for the area, and the development of cropping systems, with a certain amount of work on horticultural crops and even some work along the lines of livestock production.

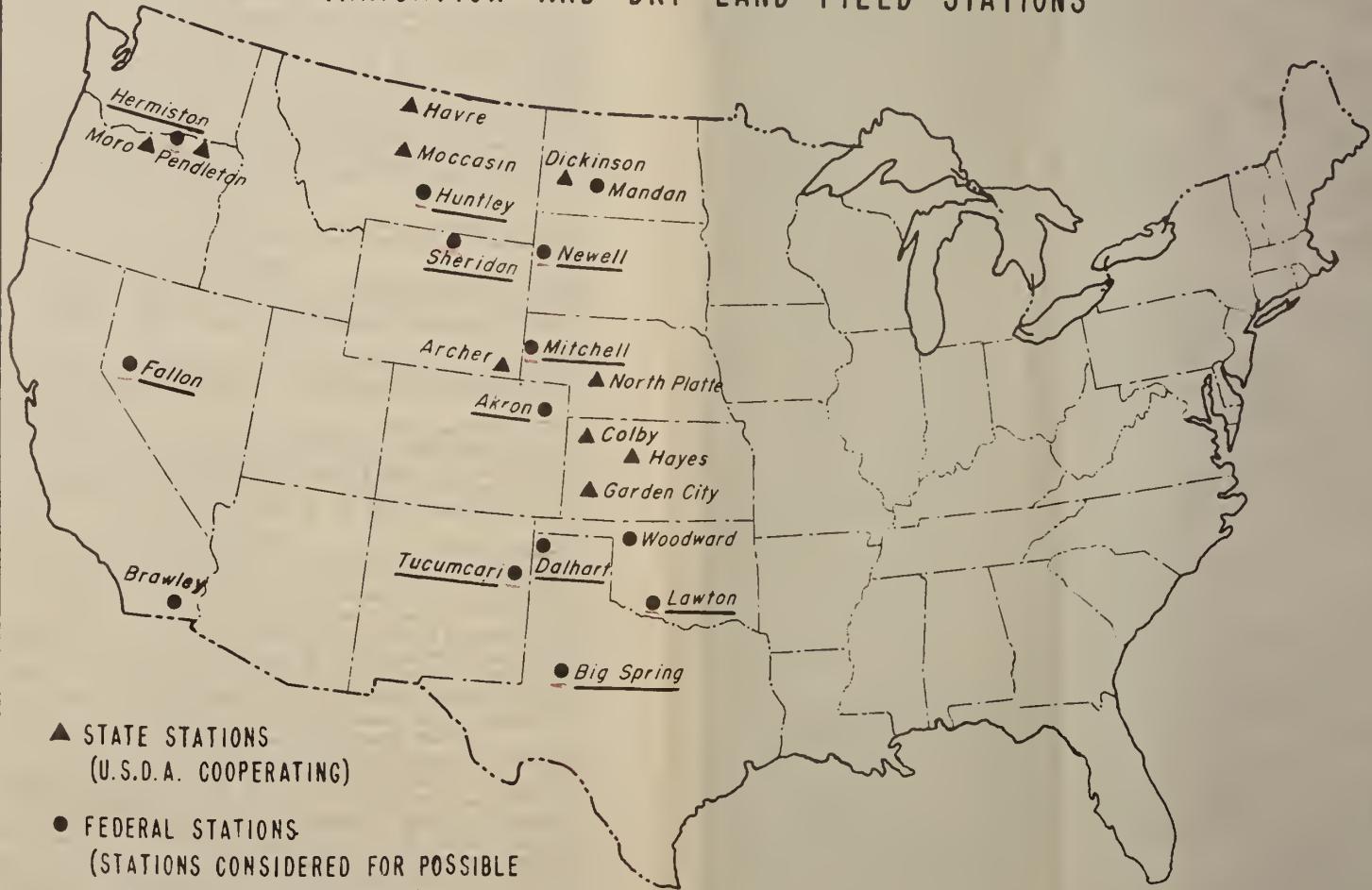
The stations as a whole, we feel, have made a very wonderful contribution, and, in support of that statement, I would like to read a portion of a paragraph—

Mr. GRANGER. Before you start on that, tell me what the yellow is on this map.

Mr. PARKER. The yellow is at Riverside, Calif. That is a field laboratory, established about 1929 or 1930.

Mr. GRANGER. Is that station involved in this bill?

## IRRIGATION AND DRY LAND FIELD STATIONS



▲ STATE STATIONS  
(U.S.D.A. COOPERATING)

● FEDERAL STATIONS  
(STATIONS CONSIDERED FOR POSSIBLE  
TRANSFER ARE UNDERLINED.)



Mr. PARKER. This station is not involved.

Now I would like to read from an address presented by Director Walster of the North Dakota agricultural experiment station on Planning in the Great Plains, before the American Planning and Civic Association at Omaha, Nebr., in 1943. He made this statement which bears on the work of these stations:

That a benevolent Government has long been interested in the welfare of the farmers and ranchers of the Great Plains is evident when one lists the agencies whose observations and studies have all contributed the facts needed for all planning and action programs in the Great Plains. Not all of these governmental programs can be put in the plus column, but at the top of the list in the plus column I would put the activities of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture in doing two things: First, establishment of its Division of Dry Land Agriculture, to which I have already alluded, with its system of experiment stations and its system of cooperation with State-owned branch stations extending from Texas to North Dakota. Tillage and crop rotation practices tested by these stations and crop choices made by these stations have become the bulwark of Great Plains agriculture.

The general situation regarding operations has changed very materially, however, in the 30 years that have intervened since the establishment of the last one of these stations.

One of the major changes has been the increased activities of State experiment stations that have grown and developed under the State research program. They have also developed extension and action programs.

These stations as established have, from the beginning, served many local needs, although they also have contributed materially to solution of regional problems.

With the development of the State agricultural experiment stations and the improved transportation facilities that enable the States, all of which are on the eastern part of the Great Plains, to reach the other portions of the State, it seems that the stations, the federally owned ones, might very well become a part of the State research programs that are serving all needs of the State.

The other thing that has faced us in the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering is the increased costs that we are faced with in operating all of these stations, and our inability to secure the necessary increased appropriation to carry on the work on an adequate basis. In that connection, we suggest if you would compare 1940 appropriations with those of 1949 you will find that the appropriations have increased approximately 10 percent; but personnel on the station has been reduced by more than 35 percent; labor on the station has been reduced in half, so that many of the stations now are essentially on a stand-by, almost a caretaker, basis.

On two of the dry land stations the farmer-foreman is acting as superintendent and is the only man on the station, so we are doing little more than maintenance operations at some of these stations.

One other matter that makes it desirable, I think, to consider a change in operating the different stations is that the Bureau has been unable to undertake on a broad basis some of the regional problems that are confronting agriculture in the Western States. I mention particularly the depletion of the soil organic matter, soil fertility, soil structure, and tillage throughout the Great Plains. Limited studies have shown that the organic-matter content of the soil on the Great Plains has declined from 30 to 50 percent. The salinity problems

which have already developed in irrigation areas now in operation have not been studied there, and as long as we are working strictly with local stations, we are unable, with the funds available, to attack some of the board problems.

After considering this condition the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering requested the directors of the Western States to appoint a committee to study the situation with the Bureau. This was done, and I would like to read a paragraph or two from the report of that special committee, which is dated August 12, 1946. [Reading:]

In April 1946, the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering requested the directors of the agricultural experiment stations of the western region to appoint a special committee to meet with representatives of the Division of Soils, Fertilizers, and Irrigation to consider in detail the broad aspects of the field stations and soil-management program, particularly with reference to (1) the functions of the field stations, (2) the responsibilities of the States and the Federal Government in the field stations' programs, and (3) the general objectives and organization of a regional soil-management program.

And this further paragraph:

*Transfer of Federal field stations to State ownership.*—In presenting its annual budget requests to the Bureau of the Budget and to Congress, the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering reports increasing difficulty in justifying the Federal Government's continued operation of the dry land and irrigation field stations where primary concern is with local problems. Transfer of these field stations to the States and the concentration of the Bureau's efforts on these phases of the work having regional significance has been strongly urged.

*Recommendations.*—Without committing any State, the special committee approves in principle the transfer of ownership of Federal field stations to the States in which they are located. (Exceptions are Mandan field station in North Dakota, Cheyenne horticultural station in Wyoming, and Woodward field station in Oklahoma.) The committee also approves the administration of the field stations which may be thus transferred by the directors of the State agricultural experiment stations, and insofar as possible the continuance of cooperation with the Division of Soils, Fertilizers, and Irrigation in conducting soil-management research.

Further, the special committee recommends a program of orderly transfer of Federal field stations to State ownership over a period of 5 to 10 years, giving due consideration to the preservation of long-time experiments for more complete analysis of results, and to the protection of the retirement rights of Federal employees concerned.

The report of the special committee, which was composed of the directors from 6 of the 17 States, further provides for the development of a memorandum of understanding and cooperative agreement between the Bureau and the States to effectuate these recommendations, and for the development of a regional soil management, irrigation, and research program.

The Bureau, in the past 3 years, has been operating in accordance with the recommendations of this committee. The plan has developed almost to maturity in three locations. The first is at Huntley, Mont. The State experiment station of the agricultural college went before the Montana Legislature 2 years ago and asked for increased funds for operating the Huntley station and authorization to accept transfer of the Huntley station from the Federal Government. The legislature gave that authorization and increased the State appropriation from \$2,000 to \$11,000, and in the past 3 months, for the next biennial has given additional increases, so that the station in Montana has an appropriation of \$22,400 for operating the Huntley station.

A second instance of a very similar character is that of Scottsbluff, Nebr. There arrangements have been made between the Bureau and

the Nebraska agricultural experiment station, whereby the Nebraska station assumes administrative duties and operation of the station and they are increasing their appropriation for that work.

Mr. GRANGER. Is that the Mitchell station?

Mr. PARKER. That is the Mitchell station.

The third is located at Tucumcari, N. Mex., and within the past few months arrangements have been completed whereby that station comes under the administration and operation of the New Mexico agricultural experiment station; and when that was done they increased their financial support from State funds from nothing to \$25,000.

Where the transfer has been virtually completed, as far as agreement on the method of operation is concerned, it has in effect given the State involved substantially greater financial support, and a much better research program, with the Bureau continuing to participate in regional aspects of the program, but with the directors of the State experiment station and deans of the college of agriculture being responsible for the administration of operations. Thus they have the opportunity of integrating this program with other research work of the State and with the Extension Service and with any action programs that may be involved.

Now, in order to complete this adjustment it becomes necessary to transfer title from the Federal Government to the State, and that is the objective of the proposed legislation. I would like to emphasize that the legislation is simply one of authorization and it does not provide that the Federal Government can force this transfer. It only enables them to make the transfer when satisfactory arrangements have been made with the States. In other words, the States do not have to accept transfer unless they see fit to do so.

Mr. GRANGER. Has there been any opposition that you know of on the part of any of the States?

Mr. PARKER. No; I do not know of any opposition by those States where the adjustments are under way. Some of the States have indicated that they are not in position, because of the lack of funds, or other reasons to accept transfer.

Mr. GRANGER. What would the Department do if they do not accept transfer?

Mr. PARKER. We would continue the operation of the stations that are not transferred until such time as there is an agreement that they are no longer needed. In the case of one station there is agreement between the State experiment station and the Bureau that it has probably served its purpose and might be closed out sometime later. Of course, under the present ruling of the Congress we are not in position to close it out.

Mr. GRANGER. What would be the financial position of the Federal Government if these transfers were made? Would we gain or lose anything financially?

Mr. PARKER. No. What it would do would be to enable us to use Federal funds that are now going for maintenance and supplies to effectuate an improved research program.

Mr. GRANGER. You could use money that is now being used for maintenance to continue your cooperation.

Mr. PARKER. Yes.

Mr. GRANGER. And you say that this legislation does not provide for forcing a transfer on the State; but it leaves it to the State to say whether or not it wants to accept the transfer or reject it.

Mr. PARKER. That is right.

Mr. GRANGER. Where do you have your regional station?

Mr. PARKER. The regional stations are at Mandan, N. Dak.; Woodward, Okla., and Cheyenne, Wyo.

Mr. GRANGER. And those you intend to maintain?

Mr. PARKER. We would maintain those stations. They are operated with the assistance of a group of collaborators from the State experiment stations in that region. For example, at Mandan, N. Dak., North and South Dakota, Wyoming, and Montana stations confer periodically upon the program of that station.

Mr. GRANGER. The defect I can see with the administration of the station is that in most instances they are quite a distance from some of the stations; are they not?

Mr. PARKER. Yes. You could say that was a considerable handicap in 1910, but it is a relatively minor handicap now.

Mr. GRANGER. I was interested in that part of your statement wherin you said something about the fertility of the soil being depleted in the arid States. What can be done about that? Do you have an answer to it?

Mr. PARKER. Not a completely satisfactory answer, Mr. Granger. It is recognized now that, particularly with phosphates—that a good many of these areas are starting to use commercial fertilizer, both on the dry land areas and more particularly those under irrigation. The great difficulty in the dry land area is the limitation imposed upon its use by the moisture supply, and that becomes quite difficult in trying to introduce legumes and rotation methods.

Mr. GRANGER. In any event when you supply fertilizer you must have moisture, and if you do not get moisture you lose not only the crop but the fertilizer as well.

Mr. PARKER. That is right and you can really injure the crop by nitrates if there is a lack of moisture.

Mr. GRANGER. Are those studies still going on at the regional stations?

Mr. PARKER. That type of program would use money released under the recent appropriation. As a matter of fact we have already made a meager beginning in that type of study. The original studies dealt very largely with crops, tillage, and moisture relationship.

Mr. GRANGER. Of course, if we get to the point where we have depleted the fertility of the soil for wheat production we really will be up against a problem, if you cannot develop some means of restoring it. Summer fallowing is being used, and if that runs out we will be confronted with a real problem unless you people are able to find some solution to it.

Mr. PARKER. That is right.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. Dr. Parker, I believe you have discussed this bill with the people in the Department of Interior, have you not, as well as your Department?

Mr. PARKER. Yes.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. And the bill now incorporates a suggestion which the Interior Department made to the first draft of the bill; does it not?

Mr. PARKER. Yes; we prepared a draft and discussed it with the Interior Department, and they suggested a provision which is incorporated in it. After they had suggested a provision, which included a reverter clause, we added some additional language to the present bill.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. May I say for the record, Mr. Chairman, that the Department of Interior was asked on March 25 to submit a report on this bill. I contacted them a few days ago, and told them the hearing was coming up. We have not yet received a report, and I was informed by the people in the Department of Interior that their report will be favorable, and if there was any exception a witness would be here to speak for the Department. There is no one here from the Interior Department, so I think it can be assumed that their report will be favorable, that they agree with the bill.

Mr. GRANGER. Why would the Department of Interior be interested in the bill?

Mr. PARKER. They are interested because most of the irrigation stations were on public domain lands. The only question that I know of that has recently been raised concerns the matter of the reverter clause which was included at the request of the Department of Interior, and we believe, Mr. Heimburger, that they are agreeable to the elimination of the reverter clause, because that has been requested at least by one State.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. However, the reverter clause is still in the bill.

Mr. PARKER. It is still in the bill as it stands.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. Are you going to propose an amendment that it be eliminated?

Mr. PARKER. No; that would be a matter for the Congress to decide and I believe Senator McCarran has been working on that with the Department of Interior.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. Dr. Parker, could you provide the committee with a list showing the acreage involved, the estimated value of the land and improvements?

Mr. PARKER. Yes; we have such a list here. I think we have covered the acreage, the ownership, the date established, and the cost of the permanent improvements, both the Federal costs and the costs of improvements that have been made by the cooperating agencies.

Mr. GRANGER. Without objection that table will be made a part of the record.

(The table referred to follows:)

*Physical facilities of Federal dry land and irrigation field stations proposed for transfer under bills H. R. 3715 and S. 723*

| Location                  | Acre  | Ownership                 | Date established | Federal cost of permanent improvement |
|---------------------------|-------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Bard, Calif. <sup>1</sup> |       |                           |                  |                                       |
| Akron, Colo.              | 406.0 | { 66 Federal<br>340 State | 1907             | \$23,807                              |
| Huntley, Mont.            | 420.0 | Federal                   | 1909             | 43,182                                |
| Mitchell, Nebr.           | 160.0 | do                        | 1909             | 24,300                                |
| Fallon, Nev.              | 160.0 | do                        | 1906             | 27,835                                |
| Tucumcari, N. Mex.        | 481.5 | State                     | 1911             | 33,225                                |
| Lawton, Okla.             | 160.0 | Federal                   | 1915             | 16,593                                |
| Hermiston, Oreg.          | 460.0 | do                        | 1909             | 26,428                                |
| Newell, S. Dak.           | 360.0 | do                        | 1907             | 125,875                               |
| Big Spring, Tex.          | 185.0 | { 130 Federal<br>55 State | 1914             | 17,535                                |
| Dalhart, Tex.             | 160.0 | Dalhart County            | 1907             | 13,620                                |
| Sheridan, Wyo.            | 320.0 | State                     | 1916             | 24,695                                |
| Total                     |       |                           |                  | 376,695                               |

<sup>1</sup> Already exchanged for new location at Brawley, Calif., by congressional action.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. Then do I understand that if the title to these areas is transferred to the State you contemplate the Bureau will continue to ask for an appropriation for experimental purposes to be carried on in cooperation with the States?

Mr. PARKER. Yes.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. In the event the States do take over the stations and the legislatures make an appropriation of, say, \$20,000 or \$25,000, to continue the work, will that be subject to matching of funds through the Extension Service?

Mr. PARKER. No; there is no requirement anywhere for the matching of funds that I am aware of.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. I was assuming that if the States—

Mr. GRANGER. Suppose you put it the other way. You are not suggesting that the Federal Government will match funds provided by the States.

Mr. PARKER. No. The States I would assume, could count these funds in matching, let us say, with any Federal grant funds for research.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. That is what I was trying to bring out, that when the State takes over a station and appropriates a certain amount of money to continue its operation and comes to the Extension Service, we will say, with a program, there would be no matching of funds requested by the State of the Federal Government as additional contribution for that work?

Mr. PARKER. They can qualify for Federal funds for research work. For example, under the Research and Marketing Act I believe there is a provision for matching of funds, and these funds could be counted against that.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. Let us take this illustration: Suppose a State appropriates \$5,000 and the Federal Government is now spending \$10,000 a year on the station, and the transfer is made to the State, and it increases its appropriation, say, to \$10,000, would that automatically mean that some of the Extension Service and experiment station funds would go into that operation, so that the contribution of the Federal Government would actually be \$20,000 instead of \$10,000?

Mr. PARKER. No.

Mr. GRANGER. What is the matching arrangement now for the Extension Service as between the Federal Government and the States?

Mr. PARKER. I am not familiar enough with that matter to answer the question.

Mr. GRANGER. It is on a matching basis?

Mr. PARKER. I am not qualified to answer.

Mr. GRANGER. Is there someone from the Department who can give that information?

#### STATEMENT OF B. T. SHAW, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SNAW. Most of the recent bills relating to either the experiment station or the Extension Service grant funds require a 50-50 matching arrangement. The earlier bills, going back to the Hatch Act, did not require matching of funds, but all of the recent bills do.

Then in response to the questions that have been raised, there would be no automatic increase in the obligation of the Federal Government, due to the fact that the State would be putting up additional funds. I could give you the figures which I think would make that clear, concerning the matching provision on a 50-50 basis in respect to the grant funds for the experiment stations, which indicate that the experiment stations put up about \$3 for every \$1 the Federal Government provides. And the amount of money that would be available here would not mean it would have to be matched by the Federal Government.

Mr. GRANGER. They could not do anything in the States that would require the Federal Government, by any stretch of the imagination, to match the State's fund.

Mr. SHAW. That is correct.

Mr. GRANGER. Thank you very much, Mr. Shaw.

Do you care to make any further statement, Mr. Parker?

Mr. PARKER. I might leave with the committee a copy of a letter from Director Lambert of the Nebraska experiment station, concerning the Mitchell field station, and also a copy of a letter from Director McKee of the Montana station, concerning the Huntley station.

Mr. GRANGER. If there is no objection they will be made a part of the record.

(The letters referred to follow:)

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA,  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE EXPERIMENT STATION,  
*Lincoln, January 26, 1949.*

Dr. F. W. PARKER,  
*Bureau of Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Md.*

DEAR DR. PARKER: This will acknowledge your letter of January 14, advising us that the proposed legislation which would provide authority for the transfer of various Department field stations to the States has been submitted to the Congress. In accordance with your request, I am listing below the expenditures of the State in the work at the Scottsbluff field station during each of the past 5 years. You will note that this is listed by appropriated funds and by expenditures from collections and sales for each of the 5 years. These figures include all expenditures, including salaries.

| Period ending— | Appropriation | Collections<br>and sales |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| June 30, 1944  | \$3,180       | \$35,238.34              |
| June 30, 1945  | 3,180         | 38,944.79                |
| June 30, 1946  | 3,192         | 30,247.27                |
| June 30, 1947  | 5,500         | 46,755.37                |
| June 30, 1948  | 10,000        | 48,834.03                |

The transfer of this station to the State will allow us to proceed with the orderly development of the facilities at the station. While we have added some improvements from time to time at the station, this has involved some difficulty on our part since the station was Federal property. I am certain that transferring the operation of the station to the experiment station will simplify the administrative problems in connection with its operation and will allow for some expansion that has not been practical under present conditions. At the same time I think such an arrangement will allow for the strengthening of the research program at the station since this will enable the Bureau to devote its funds to the hiring of research personnel. This will put the operations at the field station more in line with the method of cooperation now followed by the Department generally with the experiment stations.

We are anxious to expand and strengthen the work at the Scottsbluff station because there is a wide interest in the problems of irrigation and dry land investi-

## 14 TRANSFER DRY LAND AND IRRIGATION FIELD STATIONS

gations under way there. With the expansion of irrigation under the Missouri Basin development, there will be need for further expansion of our research on irrigation, drainage, and related problems. If we can carry out the expansion at Scottsbluff as planned, this should provide facilities for certain of the needed investigations in this field. In these investigations we hope, of course, to enlist the cooperation of the Department.

We appreciate your efforts in getting this legislation before the Congress. I have written to Senator Butler asking for his help in getting action on the bill promptly. If there is any additional information we can furnish, please advise us.

Sincerely,

W. V. LAMBERT, Director.

MONTANA STATE COLLEGE,  
Bozeman, February 1, 1949.

Dr. F. W. PARKER,  
*Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering,  
United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR DR. PARKER: This will acknowledge your letters of January 14 relative to the transfer of the Huntley branch station to the State of Montana. In one of your letters, you requested information on State appropriations to the Huntley station. For your convenience, I have tabulated below the State appropriations starting with 1943-44.

|              |         |
|--------------|---------|
| 1943-44----- | \$1,300 |
| 1944-45----- | 1,300   |
| 1945-46----- | 2,000   |
| 1946-47----- | 2,000   |
| 1947-48----- | 11,248  |
| 1948-49----- | 11,248  |

Total, 6-year period----- 29,096

In the 1949 Montana legislative budget, I have recommended \$25,000 for each year of the biennium beginning July 1, 1949, but of course it is too early to predict how the appropriation committees will respond. Our hearings were held last week and the attitude of the committees was entirely friendly.

You may also be interested in the trust fund at the Huntley station through this same period. For years, sales receipts from surplus products incidental to agronomic research have been deposited in the trust fund and have been applied toward the expenses of conducting the agronomy project. Since May 1, 1947, the same procedure has applied to the dairy industry project.

#### Huntley sales receipts

| Year           | Agronomy   | Dairy      | Total      |
|----------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1943-44-----   | \$4,055.68 | -----      | \$4,055.68 |
| 1944-45-----   | 4,110.08   | -----      | 4,110.68   |
| 1945-46-----   | 5,209.86   | -----      | 5,209.86   |
| 1946-47-----   | 5,893.80   | \$1,890.49 | 7,784.29   |
| 1947-48-----   | 6,548.81   | 17,750.88  | 24,299.69  |
| Total-----     | 25,818.23  | 19,641.37  | 45,459.60  |
| 1948-49:       |            |            |            |
| July-----      | 2,197.96   | 2,197.96   | 2,197.96   |
| August-----    | 189.60     | 1,454.32   | 1,643.92   |
| September----- | 1,384.41   | 1,568.16   | 2,972.57   |
| October-----   | 791.39     | 2,168.87   | 2,960.26   |
| November-----  | 805.87     | 1,184.33   | 1,990.20   |
| December-----  | 395.65     | 1,227.43   | 1,623.08   |
| Total-----     | 3,566.92   | 9,821.07   | 13,387.99  |

By combining State funds appropriated to the Huntley station with the trust funds resulting from sales which have been applied to the agronomy and dairy projects there, a total of \$63,307.60 has been expended between July 1, 1943, and June 30, 1948, or an average of approximately \$12,660 annually.

Two years ago, when I proposed to the joint appropriation subcommittee (senate and house) that legislation be approved permitting the Montana State Board of Examiners to accept title to the Huntley branch station from the Federal Government and make an appropriation which indicated willingness of the State to take over the extra responsibility of operating another branch station, there was no opposition. If I recall correctly, the vote to legalize acceptance of the Huntley station by the State was unanimous and the appropriation which I was permitted by the State board of education to ask for the Huntley station was approved.

My approval to transfer ownership of the Huntley station to the State of Montana is shown by the fact that I prepared the original draft of the bill to legalize this action on the part of the State.

If there is need for additional information, please feel free to write me.

Very truly yours,

CLYDE MCKEE, *Director.*

Mr. GRANGER. Is there any further statement to be made on this bill? Are there any further witnesses from the Department?

Mr. PARKER. No.

Mr. GRANGER. Does anyone else desire to make a statement on the bill? If not, thank you very much, gentlemen.

The committee will stand adjourned.

(At 11:45 a. m. the committee adjourned.)

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81st CONGRESS  
1st Session

H. R. 5679

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 18, 1949

Mr. GRANGER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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A BILL

To authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized, at such  
4       times as he deems appropriate, to convey by appropriate  
5       conveyances, without consideration, the interest of the United  
6       States in the lands, including water rights, buildings, and  
7       improvements presently comprising or appurtenant to the  
8       following dry land and irrigation field stations, to the States  
9       in which such stations are located, when, in the opinion of  
10      the Secretary of Agriculture, the transfer of any such station

1 will result in establishing a more effective program in the  
2 cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Depart-  
3 ment of Agriculture and the respective State and the fur-  
4 therance of agricultural experimental work on a national or  
5 regional basis will be better served by such transfer:  
6 Huntley, Montana; Mitchell, Nebraska; Fallon, Nevada;  
7 Tucumcari, New Mexico; Lawton, Oklahoma; Hermiston,  
8 Oregon; Sheridan, Wyoming: *Provided*, That when any or  
9 all of the land, including water rights, comprising any such  
10 station is public-domain land, only the Secretary of the In-  
11 terior may by patent or other appropriate conveyance trans-  
12 fer such lands to the respective States: *Provided further*,  
13 That when any easement necessary to a station conveyed  
14 or patented hereunder is on public-domain lands, only the  
15 Secretary of the Interior may grant such easements to the  
16 State to which the station has been conveyed.

17 SEC. 2. Conveyances or patents hereunder shall be  
18 upon such conditions as in the opinion of the Secretary  
19 of Agriculture will assure the use of such station in the coop-  
20 erative agricultural experimental work of the Department of  
21 Agriculture and the respective State. Any such convey-  
22 ances of the land shall contain a reservation to the United  
23 States of all the minerals in the land together with the

1 right to prospect for, mine, and remove the same under  
2 such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may pre-  
3 scribe.

81<sup>ST</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 5679

## A BILL

To authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes.

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By Mr. GRANGER

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JULY 18, 1949

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture





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81ST CONGRESS } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES } REPORT  
1st Session } { No. 1181

## DRY-LAND AND IRRIGATION FIELD STATIONS

AUGUST 3, 1949.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. COOLEY, from the Committee on Agriculture, submitted the following

### R E P O R T

[To accompany H. R. 5679]

The Committee on Agriculture, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5679) to authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry-land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

#### STATEMENT

In the years 1905 to 1915 a number of field stations and experimental farms were established by the Department of Agriculture throughout the Great Plains area. Some of the stations were on or adjacent to reclamation projects and dealt with the problems of irrigation farming, while others were in the dry-land areas and were devoted to the problems of dry-land agriculture. The general purpose of the stations was to develop and disseminate information on the type of agriculture best suited to the Great Plains area and thus to aid in the settlement and development of that part of the United States. The stations were devoted to problems of a regional nature rather than of local character.

In the years since the establishment of these stations, the general types of agricultural endeavor best suited to the dry-land and irrigated areas of the Great Plains have been well developed, and the stations have gradually taken on more and more of the character of experimental farms devoted to research into local soil types and other localized agricultural problems. In this role, the stations have fitted closely into the programs of the agricultural colleges and experiment stations of the respective States, but have had constantly decreasing significance and usefulness to the United States Department of Agriculture.

For the past several years, the Federal appropriations for these stations have been on such a small scale that little more than maintenance operations have been possible with Federal funds, and much of the work that has been done at the stations has been made possible only because of State participation and cooperation.

The Department of Agriculture feels that the most useful function of these stations is now almost entirely local in character and recommends that the stations be transferred to the States in which they are located, if those States desire to accept the station and take over its operation. This legislation was introduced at the request of the Secretary of Agriculture in order to authorize such action.

The bill was introduced and referred to the committee as H. R. 3715, and hearings were held on this bill. H. R. 5679, reported herewith, is a clean bill introduced by direction of the committee embodying changes made by the committee. As introduced, the legislation included four field stations in addition to the seven now named in the bill. During the hearings, it was brought to the attention of the committee that the States in which those four stations were located had no present desire or intention of accepting the transfer of the stations; and those stations were, therefore, dropped from the bill in order to avoid superfluous legislation. H. R. 3715 also contained a provision under which title to the stations would have reverted to the United States in the event that they ceased to be used by the States for the purpose for which they were transferred. This reverter was put into the bill at the request of the Department of the Interior, but upon reconsideration of the matter that Department reached the decision that the reversion provision was unwise with regard to these stations and so indicated to the committee in its report on the bill. In the bill reported by the committee, therefore, that provision has been eliminated.

#### DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The adoption of this legislation is recommended by both the Department of Agriculture and the Department of the Interior, and is approved by the Bureau of the Budget. A copy of Executive Communication No. 43 from the Secretary of Agriculture to the Speaker of the House of Representatives requesting the adoption of this legislation and the report on the bill (H. R. 3715) submitted by the Secretary of the Interior are appended hereto and made a part of this report.

JANUARY 6, 1949.

The honorable the SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I am transmitting for consideration of the Congress a proposed bill authorizing the transfer of certain agricultural dry-land and irrigation field stations to any State in which such stations are located.

The bill would permit the Secretary of Agriculture or, when the lands concerned are public domain, the Secretary of the Interior to effectuate the transfer when, in the opinion of the Secretary of Agriculture, the transfer would result in establishing a more effective program in the cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Department of Agriculture and the State and in the furtherance of agricultural experimental work on a national or regional basis.

The bill further provides that any transfer shall be upon such conditions as will assure the use of the station in such cooperative agricultural experimental work. The Secretary of Agriculture may waive the observance of such conditions when, in his opinion, a station is no longer needed in such cooperative work. All mineral rights would be reserved to the United States.

The irrigation field stations concerned were originally established on reclamation projects primarily as demonstration farms. The dry-land field stations concerned were established in the dry-land area of the Middle West to meet the need for information incident to settlement of the Great Plains area, by assembling information as to the limits of particular agriculture and the kinds of farming suitable for various areas. Generally, the stations are engaged in cooperative work with the agricultural experiment stations of the States in which located. A great deal of fundamental information necessary has now been assembled by these stations, and the need for soil research has gradually displaced the earlier type of demonstration and testing activities carried on at these stations. With increasing costs, the maintenance and operation of these stations will utilize such a portion of the available moneys as to hamper adequate soils research. The question of how best to fit these stations into a comprehensive soil-research program has been discussed by representatives of this Department with the Directors of the Agricultural Experiment Stations in the area and a special committee of such Directors has recommended the transfer of these stations to the respective States where the work being carried on at such stations is primarily concerned with local problems. In addition to the provision in the bill with respect to terms and conditions of transfer requiring the continued use of the stations in cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Department of Agriculture, this Department, prior to the time of the transfer of any station, proposes to enter into a memorandum of understanding with each State concerned which would provide for the continuation of the research work of the field station on a cooperative basis.

The enactment of the proposed bill would make possible a more comprehensive and intensive soil-research program, since the Department of Agriculture would be relieved of the cost of maintaining and operating such stations, thus permitting the use of Federal funds for continuing research on a national or regional basis. Such transfer would not adversely affect the present research programs being conducted at such stations but would assure an integration of such stations into the national and regional research programs without cost to the Federal Government in connection with their maintenance and operation.

The Department of the Interior has recommended the incorporation in the Department's original draft of the bill of two revisions providing that if the land is public-domain land it is to be patented by the Department of the Interior, and that there be a reverter to the United States in the event that the land ceases to be used for the purpose intended by the conveyance.

We have no objection to the first revision and are satisfied with the second, subject to certain further provisions as to which we have the informal concurrence of the Department of the Interior. Under these additional provisions, it is declared that the reverter will not prevent an exchange in effect by a State of the existing tract for a suitable substitute, and also that, in the event of a final abandonment by the State of its operations, it may keep upon paying the fair value thereof, such portion of the station site as may be necessary to its continued enjoyment of improvements thereon. All these changes have been incorporated into the proposed bill.

This Department recommends that the proposed legislation be enacted.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that it has no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

CHARLES F. BRANNAN, *Secretary.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
Washington, D. C., May 16, 1949.

MY DEAR MR. COOLEY: We are glad to comply with your committee's request for an expression of this Department's views on H. R. 3715, which is entitled "A bill to authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry-land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes."

Enactment of legislation along the lines of H. R. 3715 is recommended.

For many years the Bureau of Reclamation has been cooperating with the agricultural agencies of the United States Department of Agriculture and with the State agricultural colleges in furtherance of research and extension programs to develop and disseminate information, to the end of aiding project settlers in

successful settlement in the service areas of Federal reclamation projects. As a part of that program, experiment stations were established in several States to serve reclamation projects in those States. Because the work done at those stations is primarily beneficial to local areas, rather than of broad national application, the United States Department of Agriculture considers that those stations should be incorporated in the State college organizations. This Department is desirous of facilitating any arrangements that the Department of Agriculture and the State colleges concerned consider to be conducive to improved operation of the agricultural experiment program.

The bill as now written provides that, in the event a particular station that is situated on public-domain lands is not used for cooperative experimental work, it shall revert to the United States. The policy that has generally been advocated by this Department and adopted by the Congress is that public lands transferred to States for specific purposes should revert to the public domain when no longer used for these purposes. That policy is sound, because it precludes alienation of the public domain for purposes other than the public interest. I consider that this well-established policy should be maintained generally as a suitable safeguard. However, the case of the experiment stations listed in H. R. 3715 is an exception to the general policy. Relatively small tracts of land are involved, long-term experimental programs are carried on, and major expenditures will have to be made by the States for buildings and other improvements on the land. In these circumstances, I consider that it would serve the public interest if the Congress should authorize, without reservation as to reversion, transfer to the States of the withdrawn public lands and lands acquired by this Department that are already incorporated as a part of the established experiment stations to which H. R. 3715 would be applicable. It is therefore recommended that the provision of the bill relative to reversion be eliminated.

Due to the imminence of hearings, this report has not been submitted to the Bureau of the Budget. Therefore, no commitment can be made regarding the relationship of the views expressed herein to the program of the President.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM E. WARNE,  
*Acting Secretary of the Interior.*

Hon. HAROLD D. COOLEY,

*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, House of Representatives.*



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# Union Calendar No. 486

81st CONGRESS  
1st Session

# H. R. 5679

[Report No. 1181]

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 1949

Mr. GRANGER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

AUGUST 3, 1949

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union  
and ordered to be printed

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## A BILL

To authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized, at such  
4       times as he deems appropriate, to convey by appropriate  
5       conveyances, without consideration, the interest of the United  
6       States in the lands, including water rights, buildings, and  
7       improvements presently comprising or appurtenant to the  
8       following dry land and irrigation field stations, to the States  
9       in which such stations are located, when, in the opinion of  
10      the Secretary of Agriculture, the transfer of any such station

1 will result in establishing a more effective program in the  
2 cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Depart-  
3 ment of Agriculture and the respective State and the fur-  
4 therance of agricultural experimental work on a national or  
5 regional basis will be better served by such transfer:  
6 Huntley, Montana; Mitchell, Nebraska; Fallon, Nevada;  
7 Tucumcari, New Mexico; Lawton, Oklahoma; Hermiston,  
8 Oregon; Sheridan, Wyoming: *Provided*, That when any or  
9 all of the land, including water rights, comprising any such  
10 station is public-domain land, only the Secretary of the In-  
11 terior may by patent or other appropriate conveyance trans-  
12 fer such lands to the respective States: *Provided further*,  
13 That when any easement necessary to a station conveyed  
14 or patented hereunder is on public-domain lands, only the  
15 Secretary of the Interior may grant such easements to the  
16 State to which the station has been conveyed.

17 SEC. 2. Conveyances or patents hereunder shall be  
18 upon such conditions as in the opinion of the Secretary  
19 of Agriculture will assure the use of such station in the coop-  
20 erative agricultural experimental work of the Department of  
21 Agriculture and the respective State. Any such convey-  
22 ances of the land shall contain a reservation to the United  
23 States of all the minerals in the land together with the

1 right to prospect for, mine, and remove the same under  
2 such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may  
3 prescribe.

81st CONGRESS  
1st SESSION      **H. R. 5679**

[Report No. 1181]

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## A BILL

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To authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes.

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By Mr. GRANGER

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JULY 18, 1949

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture

AUGUST 3, 1949

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed





81st CONGRESS  
1st Session

H. R. 5679

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 16 (legislative day, JUNE 2), 1949

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

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**AN ACT**

To authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized, at such  
4       times as he deems appropriate, to convey by appropriate  
5       conveyances, without consideration, the interest of the United  
6       States in the lands, including water rights, buildings, and  
7       improvements presently comprising or appurtenant to the  
8       following dry land and irrigation field stations, to the States  
9       in which such stations are located, when, in the opinion of  
10      the Secretary of Agriculture, the transfer of any such station

1 will result in establishing a more effective program in the  
2 cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Depart-  
3 ment of Agriculture and the respective State and the fur-  
4 therance of agricultural experimental work on a national or  
5 regional basis will be better served by such transfer:  
6 Huntley, Montana; Mitchell, Nebraska; Fallon, Nevada;  
7 Tucumcari, New Mexico; Lawton, Oklahoma; Hermiston,  
8 Oregon; Sheridan, Wyoming: *Provided*, That when any or  
9 all of the land, including water rights, comprising any such  
10 station is public-domain land, only the Secretary of the In-  
11 terior may by patent or other appropriate conveyance trans-  
12 fer such lands to the respective States: *Provided further*,  
13 That when any easement necessary to a station conveyed  
14 or patented hereunder is on public-domain lands, only the  
15 Secretary of the Interior may grant such easements to the  
16 State to which the station has been conveyed.

17 SEC. 2. Conveyances or patents hereunder shall be  
18 upon such conditions as in the opinion of the Secretary  
19 of Agriculture will assure the use of such station in the coop-  
20 erative agricultural experimental work of the Department of  
21 Agriculture and the respective State. Any such convey-  
22 ances of the land shall contain a reservation to the United  
23 States of all the minerals in the land together with the

1 right to prospect for, mine, and remove the same under  
2 such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may  
3 prescribe.

Passed the House of Representatives August 15, 1949.

Attest:

RALPH R. ROBERTS,

*Clerk.*

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## AN ACT

To authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes.

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AUGUST 16 (legislative day, JUNE 2), 1949

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry





Planned by the  
Division of Legislative Reports  
Office of Budget and Finance

# Calendar No. 1852

81ST CONGRESS }  
2d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT  
No. 1847

## TRANSFER OF DRY-LAND AND IRRIGATION STATIONS

JUNE 20 (legislative day, JUNE 7), 1950.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. GILLETTE, from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry,  
submitted the following

### R E P O R T

[To accompany H. R. 5679]

The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5679) to authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass with an amendment.

On page 2, line 7, strike out "Lawton, Oklahoma".

### STATEMENT

H. R. 5679 and a related bill, S. 723, were referred to a subcommittee which considered the legislation and reported H. R. 5679 favorably to the committee with one amendment. The amendment recommended by the subcommittee has been adopted as a committee amendment and therefore it is recommended for favorable consideration by the Senate.

A copy of the subcommittee report on S. 723 and H. R. 5679 is attached hereto and made a part of this report.

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### REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON S. 723 AND H. R. 5679, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY, UNITED STATES SENATE

Your subcommittee, appointed to consider S. 723 and H. R. 5679 to authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry-land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes, hereby report favorably on H. R. 5679 and recommend that it be enacted with the following amendment:

On page 2, line 7, strike out "Lawton, Oklahoma".

## PROVISIONS OF H. R. 5679

H. R. 5679 would authorize the transfer, without consideration, of seven dry-land and irrigation field stations to the States in which they are located. The stations proposed to be conveyed to the States by the Secretary of Agriculture are at Huntley, Mont.; Mitchell, Nebr.; Fallon, Nev.; Tucumcari, N. Mex.; Lawton, Okla.; Hermiston, Oreg.; and Sheridan, Wyo. Transfer of any public-domain land included in any of these stations shall be made by the Secretary of the Interior, who shall also have the authority to grant any easements which are necessary on any public-domain land involved.

The bill provides that transfer of the stations to the States shall be made upon such conditions as in the opinion of the Secretary of Agriculture will assure the use of such stations in the cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Department of Agriculture and the respective States. All conveyances of land authorized by the bill must contain a reservation to the United States of all mineral rights.

## HISTORY OF STATIONS

These field stations and experimental farms were established along with several others during the period 1905 to 1915 to help develop the best types of agriculture in the Great Plains area. Such work was largely regional in character at first but since the general adoption of an agriculture best suited for the dry land and irrigated areas of the Midwest, the stations have been devoted principally to research on local soil types and other local problems. Federal funds for the operation of these stations have been decreased and as a result, their operation has depended largely on State participation and cooperation. Several are being operated on a stand-by basis. The transfer of the stations to the States would therefore make funds heretofore used for maintenance available for research on a national or regional basis. Each transfer would be subject to acceptance by the State.

Your subcommittee was first appointed to consider S. 723 which proposed to transfer four other stations in addition to those named in H. R. 5679. In its consideration of this legislation, the House Committee on Agriculture recommended the deletion of these four stations from the legislation as there was no indication that the States involved would accept the stations. The House agreed with that recommendation in the passage of H. R. 5679.

S. 723 also differs from H. R. 5679 in that it contains a reverter clause. Your subcommittee has been informed that several States interested in operating these stations would not be in a position to do so if a reverter clause was in effect. Therefore, it would appear that the provision of H. R. 5679 requiring that the transfers be made upon conditions which, in the opinion of the Secretary of Agriculture, will assure continuation of cooperative agricultural experimental work on the stations is adequate in this situation.

## AMENDMENT

The amendment recommended by your subcommittee would delete the Lawton, Okla., station from those to be transferred under authority of this legislation. The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry has recommended enactment of S. 2086 which would transfer the Lawton station to the Fort Sill Indian School in Oklahoma, the station originally being a part of the school's reserve. S. 2086 has been passed by the Senate and in view of this action, your subcommittee does not believe transfer of the station to the State of Oklahoma should be authorized. "With the above amendment, your subcommittee recommends that H. R. 5679 be enacted."

A copy of the report of the House Committee on Agriculture on H. R. 5679 (H. Rept. 1181) is attached hereto as a part of this report.

OLIN D. JOHNSTON, Chairman.  
GUY M. GILLETTE.  
JAMES P. KEM.

[H. Rept. No. 1181, 81st Cong., 1st sess.]

The Committee on Agriculture, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5679) to authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry-land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

## STATEMENT

In the years 1905 to 1915 a number of field stations and experimental farms were established by the Department of Agriculture throughout the Great Plains area. Some of the stations were on or adjacent to reclamation projects and dealt with the problems of irrigation farming, while others were in the dry-land areas and were devoted to the problems of dry-land agriculture. The general purpose of the stations was to develop and disseminate information on the type of agriculture best suited to the Great Plains area and thus to aid in the settlement and development of that part of the United States. The stations were devoted to problems of a regional nature rather than of local character.

In the years since the establishment of these stations, the general types of agricultural endeavor best suited to the dry land and irrigated areas of the Great Plains have been well developed, and the stations have gradually taken on more and more of the character of experimental farms devoted to research into local soil types and other localized agricultural problems. In this role, the stations have fitted closely into the programs of the agricultural colleges and experiment stations of the respective States, but have had constantly decreasing significance and usefulness to the United States Department of Agriculture.

For the past several years, the Federal appropriations for these stations have been on such a small scale that little more than maintenance operations have been possible with Federal funds, and much of the work that has been done at the stations has been made possible only because of State participation and cooperation.

The Department of Agriculture feels that the most useful function of these stations is now almost entirely local in character and recommends that the stations be transferred to the States in which they are located, if those States desire to accept the station and take over its operation. This legislation was introduced at the request of the Secretary of Agriculture in order to authorize such action.

The bill was introduced and referred to the committee as H. R. 3715, and hearings were held on this bill. H. R. 5679, reported herewith, is a clean bill introduced by direction of the committee embodying changes made by the committee. As introduced, the legislation included four field stations in addition to the seven now named in the bill. During the hearings, it was brought to the attention of the committee that the States in which those four stations were located had no present desire or intention of accepting the transfer of the stations; and those stations were, therefore, dropped from the bill in order to avoid superfluous legislation. H. R. 3715 also contained a provision under which title to the stations would have reverted to the United States in the event that they ceased to be used by the States for the purpose for which they were transferred. This reverter was put into the bill at the request of the Department of the Interior, but upon reconsideration of the matter that Department reached the decision that the reversion provision was unwise with regard to these stations and so indicated to the committee in its report on the bill. In the bill reported by the committee, therefore, that provision has been eliminated.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The adoption of this legislation is recommended by both the Department of Agriculture and the Department of the Interior, and is approved by the Bureau of Budget. A copy of Executive Communication No. 43 from the Secretary of Agriculture to the Speaker of the House of Representatives requesting the adoption of this legislation and the report on the bill (H. R. 3715) submitted by the Secretary of the Interior are appended hereto and made a part of this report.

JANUARY 6, 1949.

The honorable the SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I am transmitting for consideration of the Congress a proposed bill authorizing the transfer of certain agricultural dry-land and irrigation field stations to any State in which such stations are located.

The bill would permit the Secretary of Agriculture or, when the lands concerned are public domain, the Secretary of the Interior to effectuate the transfer when, in the opinion of the Secretary of Agriculture, the transfer would result in establishing a more effective program in the cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Department of Agriculture and the State and in the furtherance of agricultural experimental work on a national or regional basis.

The bill further provides that any transfer shall be upon such conditions as will assure the use of the station in such cooperative agricultural experimental work. The Secretary of Agriculture may waive the observance of such conditions when,

in his opinion, a station is no longer needed in such cooperative work. All mineral rights would be reserved to the United States.

The irrigation field stations concerned were originally established on reclamation projects primarily as demonstration farms. The dry-land field stations concerned were established in the dry-land area of the Middle West to meet the need for information incident to settlement of the Great Plains area, by assembling information as to the limits of particular agriculture and the kinds of farming suitable for various areas. Generally, the stations are engaged in cooperative work with the agricultural experiment stations of the States in which located. A great deal of fundamental information necessary has now been assembled by these stations, and the need for soil research has gradually displaced the earlier type of demonstration and testing activities carried on at these stations. With increasing costs, the maintenance and operation of these stations will utilize such a portion of the available moneys as to hamper adequate soils research. The question of how best to fit these stations into a comprehensive soil-research program has been discussed by representatives of this Department with the Directors of the Agricultural Experiment Stations in the area and a special committee of such Directors has recommended the transfer of these stations to the respective States where the work being carried on at such stations is primarily concerned with local problems. In addition to the provision in the bill with respect to terms and conditions of transfer requiring the continued use of the stations in cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Department of Agriculture, this Department, prior to the time of the transfer of any station, proposes to enter into a memorandum of understanding with each State concerned which would provide for the continuation of the research work of the field station on a cooperative basis.

The enactment of the proposed bill would make possible a more comprehensive and intensive soil-research program, since the Department of Agriculture would be relieved of the cost of maintaining and operating such stations, thus permitting the use of Federal funds for continuing research on a national or regional basis. Such transfer would not adversely affect the present research programs being conducted at such stations but would assure an integration of such stations into the national and regional research programs without cost to the Federal Government in connection with their maintenance and operation.

The Department of the Interior has recommended the incorporation in the Department's original draft of the bill of two revisions providing that if the land is public-domain land it is to be patented by the Department of the Interior, and that there be a reverter to the United States in the event that the land ceases to be used for the purpose intended by the conveyance.

We have no objection to the first revision and are satisfied with the second, subject to certain further provisions as to which we have the informal concurrence of the Department of the Interior. Under these additional provisions, it is declared that the reverter will not prevent an exchange in effect by a State of the existing tract for a suitable substitute, and also that, in the event of a final abandonment by the State of its operations, it may keep upon paying the fair value thereof such portion of the station site as may be necessary to its continued enjoyment of improvements thereon. All these changes have been incorporated into the proposed bill.

This Department recommends that the proposed legislation be enacted.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that it has no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

CHARLES F. BRANNAN, Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
*Washington, D. C., May 16, 1949.*

HON. HAROLD D. COOLEY,

*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, House of Representatives.*

MY DEAR MR. COOLEY: We are glad to comply with your committee's request for an expression of this Department's views on H. R. 3715, which is entitled "A bill to authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes."

Enactment of legislation along the lines of H. R. 3715 is recommended.

For many years the Bureau of Reclamation has been cooperating with the agricultural agencies of the United States Department of Agriculture and with the State agricultural colleges in furtherance of research and extension programs to develop and disseminate information, to the end of aiding project settlers in successful settlement in the service areas of Federal reclamation projects. As a part of that program, experiment stations were established in several States to serve reclamation projects in those States. Because the work done at those stations is primarily beneficial to local areas, rather than of broad national application, the United States Department of Agriculture considers that those stations should be incorporated in the State college organizations. This Department is desirous of facilitating any arrangements that the Department of Agriculture and the State colleges concerned consider to be conducive to improved operation of the agricultural experiment program.

The bill as now written provides that, in the event a particular station that is situated on public-domain lands is not used for cooperative experimental work, it shall revert to the United States. The policy that has generally been advocated by this Department and adopted by the Congress is that public lands transferred to States for specific purposes should revert to the public domain when no longer used for these purposes. That policy is sound, because it precludes alienation of the public domain for purposes other than the public interest. I consider that this well-established policy should be maintained generally as a suitable safeguard. However, the case of the experiment stations listed in H. R. 3715 is an exception to the general policy. Relatively small tracts of land are involved, long-term experimental programs are carried on, and major expenditures will have to be made by the States for buildings and other improvements on the land. In these circumstances, I consider that it would serve the public interest if the Congress should authorize, without reservation as to reversion, transfer to the States of the withdrawn public lands and lands acquired by this Department that are already incorporated as a part of the established experiment stations to which H. R. 3715 would be applicable. It is therefore recommended that the provision of the bill relative to reversion be eliminated.

Due to the imminence of hearings, this report has not been submitted to the Bureau of the Budget. Therefore, no commitment can be made regarding the relationship of the views expressed herein to the program of the President.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM E. WARNE,  
*Acting Secretary of the Interior.*





P. 1  
RECORDED  
JUN 22 1949

# Calendar No. 1852

81ST CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5679

[Report No. 1847]

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 16 (legislative day, JUNE 2), 1949

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

JUNE 20 (legislative day, JUNE 7), 1950

Reported by Mr. GILLETTE, with an amendment

[Omit the part struck through]

---

## AN ACT

To authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized, at such  
4       times as he deems appropriate, to convey by appropriate  
5       conveyances, without consideration, the interest of the United  
6       States in the lands, including water rights, buildings, and  
7       improvements presently comprising or appurtenant to the  
8       following dry land and irrigation field stations, to the States  
9       in which such stations are located, when, in the opinion of  
10      the Secretary of Agriculture, the transfer of any such station  
11      will result in establishing a more effective program in the

1 cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Depart-  
2 ment of Agriculture and the respective State and the fur-  
3 therance of agricultural experimental work on a national or  
4 regional basis will be better served by such transfer:  
5 Huntley, Montana; Mitchell, Nebraska; Fallon, Nevada;  
6 Tucumcari, New Mexico; ~~Lawton, Oklahoma;~~ Hermiston,  
7 Oregon; Sheridan, Wyoming: *Provided*, That when any or  
8 all of the land, including water rights, comprising any such  
9 station is public-domain land, only the Secretary of the In-  
10 terior may by patent or other appropriate conveyance trans-  
11 fer such lands to the respective States: *Provided further*,  
12 That when any easement necessary to a station conveyed  
13 or patented hereunder is on public-domain lands, only the  
14 Secretary of the Interior may grant such easements to the  
15 State to which the station has been conveyed.

16 SEC. 2. Conveyances or patents hereunder shall be  
17 upon such conditions as in the opinion of the Secretary  
18 of Agriculture will assure the use of such station in the coop-  
19 erative agricultural experimental work of the Department of  
20 Agriculture and the respective State. Any such convey-  
21 ances of the land shall contain a reservation to the United  
22 States of all the minerals in the land together with the

1 right to prospect for, mine, and remove the same under  
2 such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may  
3 prescribe.

Passed the House of Representatives August 15, 1949.

Attest:

RALPH R. ROBERTS,

*Clerk.*

81st CONGRESS  
2d SESSION

# H. R. 5679

[Report No. 1847]

## AN ACT

To authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes.

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August 16 (legislative day, June 2), 1949

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

June 20 (legislative day, June 7), 1950

Reported with an amendment





DIGEST OF  
CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
Division of Legislative Reports  
(For Department staff only)

Issued July 27, 1950  
For actions of July 26, 1950  
81st-2nd, No. 147

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HIGHLIGHTS. Senate passed bills to extend ACP through 1952, authorize Virgin Islands agricultural program, and amend Federal Property Act. House passed bill amending budgeting and accounting procedures. House committee reported bill to amend Federal Property Act.

SENATE

1. AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM. Passed as reported S. 2636, to extend until December 31, 1952 the authority for this program (pp. 11204-5).
2. VIRGIN ISLANDS. Passed without amendment S. 2809, to authorize the Virgin Islands agricultural program (pp. 11177-8).
3. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT. Passed without amendment S. 3959, to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to provide for records management, eliminate the supply surcharge, authorize the donation of surplus personnel property to health institutions, establish basic authority for certain buildings-management functions of GSA, and extend to the field service the requirement that Government-owned vehicles be conspicuously identified (pp. 11249-54).
4. SOIL CONSERVATION. Passed without amendment S. 2635, to amend the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to provide that the authority of the Secretary to determine fair prices for conservation materials discretionary rather than mandatory (pp. 11204).
5. PERSONNEL. Passed with amendment S. 3652, to provide an order of precedence for the payment of all unpaid compensation due an officer or employee of the Government at time of death (pp. 11199-200). Agreed to an amendment by Sen. Schoenbel to make the bill inapplicable to the accounts of officers or employees of the Federal land banks, intermediate credit banks, production credit corporations, or the regional banks for cooperatives (p. 11200).

6. RESEARCH LANDS. Passed as reported H. R. 5679, to authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located (p. 11178).

7. FOREST LANDS. Passed without amendment H. R. 7982, to abolish the Wheeler National Monument and provide for the administration of the lands contained therein as part of a national forest; and H. R. 7339, a similar bill relating to the Holy Cross National Monument (p. 11255). These bills will now be sent to the President.

8. INSPECTORIAL SERVICES. Passed without amendment S. 3698, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to pay employees performing inspection and quarantine services relating to imports into and exports from the U. S., for overtime, night, or holiday work, at such rates as he may determine, and to accept from persons for whom such work is performed reimbursement for any sums paid for the work (p. 11204).

9. CENSUS. Passed with amendment H. R. 7265, to provide for a periodic census of governments (p. 11262). Senate conferences were appointed.

10. GUAM. Passed as reported H. R. 7273, to provide a civil government for Guam (pp. 11234-9).

11. LANDS. Passed with amendments S. 3409, to establish a new Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming (pp. 11200-2).  
Passed without amendment H. R. 3284, to authorize grantees of recreational demonstration project lands to make land exchanges relating to such properties (pp. 11200, 11263). This bill will now be sent to the President.  
Passed without amendment S. 3934, to amend the law relating to the U. S.-Mexico Boundary Commission, to authorize the U. S. section to buy land and facilities which will be flooded when the Falcon Dam is completed, authorizes the purchase or condemnation of about 470 acres of land in the Imperial irrigation district, Calif., and provides basic legislation for certain activities heretofore authorized by appropriation acts (pp. 11228-9).  
Passed without amendment H. R. 2196, to authorize the elimination of land from the Flathead Indian irrigation project, Mont. (p. 11256). This bill will now be sent to the President.

12. WILDLIFE. Passed without amendment H. R. 6533, to provide that the U. S. shall aid the States in fish restoration and management projects (p. 11217). This bill will now be sent to the President.  
Passed without amendment H. R. 3906, to amend the Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Act to provide for larger contributions to the Territories (p. 11219). This bill will now be sent to the President.  
Passed without amendment S. 3123, to amend the act regarding the agreement between the U. S. and Canada to protect the fur seals of the Pribilof Islands (pp. 11195-7).

13. PRESIDENTIAL FUNCTIONS. Passed without amendment H. R. 5526, to authorize the President to provide for the performance of certain of his functions by other officers of the Government (pp. 11180, 11263). This bill will now be sent to the President.

14. ROADS. Passed without amendment H. R. 5990, to provide for the construction and maintenance of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway in Maryland (pp. 11219-21). This bill will now be sent to the President.

15. RECLAMATION. Passed as reported H. R. 1922, to amend section 10 of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 to authorize the Secretary of Interior to make grants, leases, and licenses for periods not to exceed 50 years for easements and rights-of-way (p. 11203).

16. NATIONAL DEFENSE. Passed with amendment H. R. 9178, to suspend until July 31, 1954 restrictions on the authorized personnel strength of the armed forces (pp. 11240-2).  
Passed with amendments H. R. 8909, to authorize the D. C. government to establish an Office of Civil Defense (pp. 11222-3, 11263-4). Senate conferences were appointed (p. 11264).

17. FLOOD CONTROL. Passed without amendment S. 3898, to authorize a preliminary examination and survey for flood control of Las Vegas Wash, Nev. (p. 11222).

18. FARM ORGANIZATION. Passed as reported S. 2868, to incorporate the Future Farmers of America (pp. 11187-9).

19. PUBLIC WORKS. Passed as reported S. J. Res. 174, granting the consent of Congress to a compact between Mo. and Ill. creating the Bi-State Development Agency and the Bi-State Metropolitan District for the planning and construction of public works (p. 11221).

20. WATER UTILIZATION. Passed as reported S. 3832, to approve a contract with the Ogden River Water Users' Assn.; and S. 3833, to approve a contract with the South Cache Water Users' Assn. (pp. 11231-2).

21. BUDGETING AND ACCOUNTING. Discussed and passed over on objection of Sen. McCarran S. 3850, to authorize the President to determine the form of the national budget and of departmental estimates, to modernize and simplify governmental accounting and auditing methods and procedures (pp. 11217-8).

22. FORESTRY. Discussed and passed over on objection of Rep. Schoppel H. R. 7155, to authorize a cooperative program of technical services to private forest land owners (pp. 11178, 11262).

23. RECORDS. Passed without amendment S. 3728, to provide for the publication of treaties and other international agreements between the U. S. and other countries in a separate compilation, to be known as United States Treaties and other International Agreements (p. 11195).

24. FARM PROGRAM. Received a La. Legislature resolution favoring "the farm plan as proposed by the Association of Southern Commissioners of Agriculture" (p. 11176).

25. ECONOMIC REPORT. Both Houses received the President's Midyear Economic Report (H. Doc. 644) (pp. 11175, 11273).

26. NOMINATIONS. Confirmed the nominations of C. H. Hunolfsing to be an Assistant Secretary of State; and C. Tyler Wood to be deputy U. S. Special Representative in Europe (pp. 11270).

HOUSE

27. BUDGETING AND ACCOUNTING. Passed with amendments H. R. 9038, to authorize the President to determine the form of the national budget and of the departmental

estimates, and to modernize and simplify governmental accounting and auditing methods and procedures (pp. 11292-318).

Agreed to an amendment by Rep. Karsten, Ill., as amended, which includes a provision that "budget and statements furnished with any proposed supplemental or deficiency appropriations shall be accompanied by information as to personal services and other objects of expenditure in the same manner and form as in the budget for the fiscal year 1950" (p. 11317).

Agreed to amendments by Rep. Karsten striking out the provisions for a "performance budget", and striking out a provision relating to the segregation of operating, and of capital and investment programs (p. 11317).

28. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT. The Expenditures in Executive Departments Committee reported with amendment H. R. 9129, to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act (H. Rpt. 2747) (pp. 11323-4).

29. FIBERS. Passed as reported S. 3520, to strengthen the common defense by providing for the expansion of Western Hemisphere production of abaca by the U. S. (pp. 11276-92).

Rejected an amendment by Rep. Crawford, Mich., to have all abaca produced under the bill utilized for stockpiling purposes and prevent its sale in the channels of trade (pp. 11291-2).

30. SUGAR. Rep. Burnside, W. Va., discussed the problem of hoarding foods and other commodities and the possibility of artificial shortages being created by speculators, commenting on the sugar supply in Cuba, and announcing his intention, if the present trend continues, to ask that temporary price controls and rationing be authorized (p. 11274).

31. COTTON ACREAGE ALLOTMENTS. Rep. Bockworth, Tex., inserted letters from various PMA county committees in Tex. and La. and others regarding acreage allotments for cotton and peanut farmers (p. 11304-12).

32. PERSONNEL. H. R. 9023 as reported (see Digest 145) amends the Federal Corrupt Practices Act (Hatch Act) to authorize the Civil Service Commission to impose lesser penalties for Federal employees violating the act if it finds that the violation does not warrant removal from office, and directs the Commission to reopen and reconsider all cases previously determined, in which removal from office was ordered, and impose a lesser penalty if the violation did not warrant removal.

33. FARM LOANS. H. R. 3613 as reported (see Digest 145) amends the act transferring the functions of PACC to the Secretary so as to authorize "loans to make available to the owners or operators of established farms in any area or region, upon their full personal liability and such reasonable security as may be determined by the Secretary, credit of a type which, beginning in 1941, was made available in such area or region by the Corporation, if the Secretary finds that there is a continued need for such credit and such credit is not readily available from other sources; except that no such loan shall be made (A) after three years after the enactment of the 1950 Amendment to Public Law 38, (B) to any one borrower at any one time in excess of \$100,000, (C) which would increase the total indebtedness of any one borrower under this paragraph to an amount exceeding \$20,000 (including principal and accrued interest), and (D) which would increase the aggregate principal amount of the loans outstanding under this paragraph at any one time to an amount exceeding \$2,000,000."

BILLS INTRODUCED

34. SMALL BUSINESS. H. R. 9243, by Rep. Batman, Tex., and S. 3978, by Sen. Sparkman, to create the Small Defense Plants Corporation and to preserve small-business institutions and free, competitive enterprise; to Banking and Currency Committees (pp. 11173, 11324). Remarks of author (pp. 11320-3).

35. RECLAMATION. H. R. 9244, by Rep. Aspinall, Colo., to amend the authority given the Secretary of the Interior by the act of June 25, 1947, to construct the Paonia reclamation project, Colorado; to Public Lands Committee (p. 11324).

36. PURCHASING. H. R. 9246, by Rep. Vinson, Ga., to provide for the renegotiation of contracts; to Ways and Means Committee (p. 11324).

37. STATEHOOD. H. R. 9247, by Rep. Bailey, W. Va., to provide for the admission of Puerto Rico into the Union; to Public Lands Committee (p. 11324).

38. PRICE CONTROL. H. R. 9252, by Rep. Kunkel, Pa., to protect the national safety and security from the consequences of price and credit inflation; to Banking and Currency Committee (p. 11324).

39. PRICES. H. Res. 736, by Rep. Davenport, Pa., <sup>to</sup> create a select committee to conduct an investigation and study of recent increases in the price of food and other commodities; to Rules Committee (p. 11324).

ITEMS IN APPENDIX

40. SUGAR. Rep. Hagen, Minn., inserted an East Grand Forks (Minn.) Record article quoting from the Federal Register regarding beet-sugar price determinations and criticizing the Department of Agriculture for "double talk." (pp. A5668-9).

41. FIBERS. Rep. Durham, N. C., inserted a letter and enclosures from the Library of Congress giving data on world fiber production, including data from OFAR (pp. A5472-4).

42. ELECTRIFICATION. Rep. D'Ewart, Mont., inserted a tabulation showing the progress of the REA program in Montana since 1938 (pp. A5666-7).  
Rep. Jackson, Wash., inserted a Portland Oregonian editorial criticizing a Reader's Digest article on CVA (pp. A5681-2).

43. ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY. Rep. Biemiller, Wis., inserted a Milwaukee (Wis.) Journal editorial favoring this project (p. A5677).

44. NATIONAL DEFENSE. Extension of remarks of Rep. Celler, N. Y., discussing H. Res. 735, to create a select committee to study and investigate the operation of a program for procurement and construction in connection with national defense (p. A5676).

45. BANKING AND CURRENCY. Rep. Woodhouse, Conn., inserted an American Banker editorial discussing the proposal to amend FDIC Act (p. A5690).

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COMMITTEE HEARINGS ANNOUNCEMENTS for July 27: H. (ex.) and S. Banking and Currency, defense production; S. Agriculture, milk and dairy products (Preston Richards, PMA, to testify); H. Agriculture, price supports and surplus commodities; S. Finance, import controls on copper; H. Education and Labor, construction of school facilities in areas affected by Federal activities (ex.); S. Interstate and Foreign Commerce, transportation.







DIGEST OF  
CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
Division of Legislative Reports  
(For Department staff only)

Issued Sept. 5, 1950  
For actions of Sept. 1, 1950  
S1st-2nd, No. 175

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**HIGHLIGHTS:** Both Houses agreed to the conference report on defense-production bill, with Sen. Wherry discussing price-control provisions. Senate passed tax bill. Senate subcommittee reported acreage-allotments bill to full committee without recommendation. Sen. Williams criticized price supports on raisins and prunes and CCC's leasing of grain-storage facilities. House committee reported Vermejo reclamation project bill. Rep. Cannon inserted his letter to Budget Bureau discussing how \$550,000,000 reduction in general appropriation bill should be applied.

SENATE

1. **DEFENSE PRODUCTION BILL.** Both Houses agreed to the conference report on this bill, H. R. 9176 (pp. 14280-95, 14237-43). Sen. Wherry discussed the price-control provisions, including those on agricultural commodities. The bill was ready for submission to the President.
2. **TAXATION.** Passed with amendments H. R. 8920, the tax-revision bill (pp. 14274-80, 14296-337). Senate conferees were appointed (p. 14337). Agreed, 52-13, to a Thye amendment regarding capital gains on breeding and dairy livestock (pp. 14302-9).
3. **ACREAGE ALLOTMENT, ETC.** The subcommittee of the Agriculture and Forestry Committee, which is considering H. R. 9109 (relating to cotton acreage allotments, etc.), voted to report the bill to the full committee without recommendation. It is expected that the full committee will consider the bill today. (D938)
4. **SELECTIVE SERVICE.** Both Houses agreed to the conference report on S. 4029, to amend the Selective Service Act regarding doctors and dentists, etc. (pp. 14295, 14243). This bill will now be sent to the President.
5. **FARM LOANS.** Sen. Wherry inserted a Nebr. American Legion resolution commending Farmers' Home Administration activities relating to veterans (pp. 14266-7).
6. **CIVILIAN DEFENSE.** Sen. McMahon inserted his statement favoring the President's request for appropriations to construct supplementary buildings outside of D. C. (pp. 14269-70).
7. **FOREIGN RELATIONS.** The Foreign Relations Committee reported on various resolutions regarding strengthening the UNO, etc. (p. 14268).

8. PRICE SUPPORT; GRAIN STORAGE. Sen. Williams inserted his statement criticizing price supports on raisins and prunes, claiming that those which have been purchased "have been or are now in the process of being dumped in the hog lots"; and criticizing the leasing by CCC of grain storage facilities from private companies at Camp Crowder, Mo., which facilities had in turn been leased by the companies from the War Assets Administration (pp. 14339-40).

9. RECESSED until Tues., Sept. 5 (p. 14340). During the week, the Senate is to consider S. 4037, to protect the internal security of the U. S., and when reported, H. R. 9526, the supplemental appropriation bill (p. D940).

HOUSE

10. RECLAMATION. The Public Lands Committee reported with amendment H. R. 8309, to authorize the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Vermejo reclamation project, N. Mex. (H. Rept. 3043) (p. 14264).

11. FURS. The "Daily Digest" states that the Agriculture Committee ordered reported (but did not actually report) H. R. 3043, to assist in bringing about a more sound agricultural economy through diversification of its productive resources by providing for research into the basic laws and principles relating to domestically raising fur-bearing animals (p. D939).  
Also states that the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee ordered reported (but did not actually report) S. 3123, to give effect to the provisional fur seal agreement between the U. S. and Canada, and to protect the fur seals of Pribilof Islands (p. D940).

12. FORESTS. The "Daily Digest" states that the Agriculture Committee ordered reported (but did not actually report) S. 1640, to authorize the Chief of Army Engineers to act as alternate for the Secretary of the Army as a member of the National Forest Reservation Commission (p. D939).

13. RESEARCH LANDS. The "Daily Digest" states that the Agriculture Committee agreed to approve the Senate amendments to H. R. 5679, authorizing the transfer of certain dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located (pp. D939-40).

14. FOREIGN AFFAIRS. The Foreign Affairs Committee reported with amendment H. R. 9039, to establish a Commission on Cooperative International Relations (H. Rept. 3044) (p. 14264).

15. EDUCATION. The "Daily Digest" states that the conferees agreed to file a conference report on S. 2317, to provide for aid in school construction in areas affected by Federal activities (p. D940).

16. ADJOURNED until Tues., Sept. 5 (p. 14264). Agreed to a unanimous consent request to meet only on Tues. and Fri. of this week for sessions at which no business will be transacted (p. 14244). Also agreed to H. Res. 838, to provide that beginning Sept. 5, sessions of the House will be held in the caucus room of the New House Office Building (p. 14244).

BILLS INTRODUCED

17. RECLAMATION. S. 4120, by Sen. Anderson (for himself and Sen. Chavez), to authorize the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Vermejo Reclamation project, N. Mex.; to Interior and Insular Affairs Committee (p. 14263).

Budget; Bernard F. Burdick, chief of office, Panama Canal; former Senator Joseph H. Ball, representing the Association of American Ship Owners; Gregory Prince, assistant general counsel, representing the Association of American Railroads; and Frazer Bailey, representing National Federation of American Shipping.

#### UN CHARTER, GREEKS, FOREIGN SERVICE, AND GENOCIDE

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* In executive session, committee voted to report to the Senate its subcommit-

tee report on "Revision of the United Nations Charter"; and

S. Res. 212, condemning abduction of Greek children by Communist guerrilla forces, and requesting the President to assert all of his powers to secure their return. The committee also discussed but took no final action on: H. R. 9002, to make certain increases in the annuities of annuitants under the Foreign Service retirement and disability system in view of the increased cost of living, and on the Genocide Treaty.

## House of Representatives

### *Chamber Action*

**Bills Introduced:** Six public bills, H. R. 9611-9616; four private bills, H. R. 9617-9620; and five resolutions, H. Con. Res. 282-283, and H. Res. 838-840, were introduced.

**Pages 14244, 14257, 14264**

**Bills Reported:** Reports were made as follows:

H. R. 8309, authorizing the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Vermejo reclamation project in the State of New Mexico (H. Rept. 3043);

H. R. 9039, to establish a Commission on Cooperative International Relations, amended (H. Rept. 3044);

H. R. 9399, to provide a more effective method of delivering applications for absentee ballots to servicemen and certain other persons (H. Rept. 3045); and

H. R. 9455, to facilitate voting by members of the Armed Forces and certain others, absent from their places of residence, amended (H. Rept. 3046).

**Page 14264**

**Defense Production:** By a division vote of 155 nays to 20 yeas, the House rejected a motion to recommit the conference report on H. R. 9176, the Defense Production Act of 1950, and by voice vote adopted the conference report.

**Pages 14237-14243**

**Doctor-Dentist Draft:** Adopted by voice vote the conference report on S. 4029, to amend the Selective Service Act to provide for special registration, classification, and induction of certain medical, dental, and allied specialist categories.

**Page 14243**

**New York Indians:** Adopted by voice vote the conference report on S. 192, to confer jurisdiction on the courts of the State of New York with respect to civil actions between Indians or to which Indians are parties.

**Page 14243**

**Order of Business:** By unanimous-consent request it was agreed that when the House adjourned today it would adjourn over to September 5, then adjourn over to September 7, and then adjourn over to September 11.

**Page 14244**

**House Sessions:** Adopted H. Res. 838, providing that when the House adjourns on Friday, September 1, it adjourn to meet on Tuesday, September 5, in the caucus room of the New House Office Building.

**Page 14244**

**Private Bill:** S. 294, a private bill, was removed from the Calendar and recommitted to the Committee on the Judiciary, by a unanimous-consent request.

**Page 14245**

**Speaker Pro Tempore:** Adopted H. Res. 839, electing Representative Walter Speaker pro tempore to serve in the absence of the Speaker.

**Page 14257**

**Condolence Resolution:** Adopted H. Res. 840, expressing condolence on the death of Representative Bulwinkle, of the Eleventh Congressional District of North Carolina, and providing for immediate adjournment. Representatives Doughton, Kerr, Wolverton, Cooley, Barden, Beckworth, Durham, Hinshaw, Bonner, Deane, Jones of North Carolina, Redden, Carlyle, and Chatham were appointed to the funeral committee.

**Page 14264**

**Program for Tuesday:** As a further mark of respect to the memory of Representative Bulwinkle the House adjourned at 1:51 p. m. until Tuesday, September 5, 1950, at 12 o'clock noon, when the House will meet in the caucus room of the New House Office Building.

### *Committee Meetings*

#### FOREST COMMISSION—FUR RESEARCH— AGRICULTURAL STATIONS

*Committee on Agriculture:* Ordered the following bills reported to the House:

S. 1640, providing that the Chief of Engineers of the Army shall be an alternate member of the National Forest Reservation Commission; and

H. R. 3043, to provide for research into the basic laws and principles relating to domestically raising fur-bearing animals.

The committee also agreed to approve the Senate amendments to H. R. 5679, authorizing the transfer of

certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located. This bill passed the Senate on July 26 and was returned to the House with a request for concurrence to the amendments.

#### WAR CLAIMS

*Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce:* The Special Subcommittee on War Claims continued hearings on H. R. 8998 and S. 3901, amending the Trading With the Enemy Act, relating to reimbursement to Americans owning directly or partly an enemy corporation taken over by the Alien Property Custodian. A statement by Representative Keogh on behalf of the legislation was submitted for the record. He introduced H. R. 8998 in the House. Harold F. Reis, Acting Chief, Legal Branch, Office of Alien Property in the Department of Justice, testified in opposition to the bills, and an opposition statement by Daniel F. Cleary, Chairman of the War Claims Commission, was read into the record by Myron Wiener, Commissioner, War Claims Commission. Adjourned subject to call of the Chair.

#### CALIFORNIA VESSELS—FUR SEALS—COAST GUARD

*Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries:* Ordered the following bills reported to the House:

H. R. 9534, amended, to amend the Merchant Marine Act of 1936, relating to the vessels *Mariposa* and *Monterey*;

S. 3123, to give effect to the provisional fur-seal agreement between the United States and Canada, and to protect the fur seals of the Pribilof Islands; and

S. 2477, to provide that in computing service in the Coast Guard there shall be included for retirement purposes all service as a Federal civilian employee and for pay purposes all service as a Coast Guard civilian employee.

Also adopted committee resolution No. 12, relating to the use of subpoenas by the special subcommittee to investigate the explosion in South Amboy, N. J.

Prior to this executive meeting of the full committee, the Subcommittee on Maritime Affairs met and ap-

#### BILLS SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT

##### New Laws

(For last listing of Public Laws, see Digest, p. D934)

S. J. Res. 174, interstate compact between Missouri and Illinois creating the Bi-State Development Agency and the Bi-State Metropolitan District. Signed August 31, 1950 (P. L. 743); and

H. R. 7146, to provide that all moneys received from the disposition of all materials on school lands in Alaska be credited to the Territory of Alaska. Signed August 31, 1950 (P. L. 744).

proved for reporting to the full committee H. R. 9534, with amendments, the *Mariposa-Monterey* vessel bill.

#### CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT

*Committee on Public Lands:* Held further consideration of S. 75, to authorize the construction, operation, and maintenance of a dam and incidental works in the main stream of the Colorado River at Bridge Canyon. Will resume on this topic Friday, September 15.

#### COMMUNISM

*Committee on Un-American Activities:* Three former Government employees, John Abt, Nathan Witt, and Charles Kramer, all of New York City, appeared before the committee today in answer to subpoenas. They were questioned in connection with the statement by Lee Pressman, former CIO general counsel, who testified here last Monday, August 28, wherein it was brought out that Alger Hiss was not a member of a Red cell here in Washington during 1934 and 1935, as was claimed by Whittaker Chambers.

At a meeting of the committee held prior to the above hearing Josh White, radio-television folk singer, who allegedly holds memberships in many "front" organizations, appeared at his own request and stated that he had been exploited by the Communist Party and requested a full exposure of communism in the theatrical field. Adjourned, subject to call of the Chair, probably one day next week.

#### Joint Committee Meetings

##### SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

*Conferees*, in executive session, agreed to file conference report on the differences between the House- and Senate-passed versions of S. 2317, school construction in areas affected by Federal activities.

##### FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE

*Conferees* met in executive session and agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the House- and Senate-passed versions of S. 2822, to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act.

#### CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

##### Senate Chamber

(Week of September 4-9)

Senate will consider S. 4037, to protect the internal security of the U. S., and when reported, H. R. 9526, making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1951.

##### Senate Committees

*Committee on Agriculture and Forestry:* September 5, executive, on H. R. 9109, cotton and peanut acreage allotments, 10 a. m., 324 Senate Office Building.





DIGEST OF  
CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
Division of Legislative Reports  
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HIGHLIGHTS: Senate committee reported supplemental appropriation bill. Senate passed bills to amend Administrative Expense Act, authorize Vermejo reclamation project, authorize increased contributions to FAO, and provide aid to school districts in areas affected by Federal activities. House passed bill to continue ACP. House Rules Committee cleared resolution to send tax-revision bill to conference.

SENATE

1. ~~SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION BILL, 1951.~~ The Appropriations Committee reported with amendments this bill, H. R. 9526 (S. Rept. 2567) (p. 14858).  
Sens. Wherry, Bridges, and McClellan submitted amendments intended to be proposed to the bill regarding exports to Russia, mutual defense assistance, and agricultural labor (pp. 14859-60). See item 38 for items in the bill for this Department.
2. ~~ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.~~ Passed as reported H. R. 9430, to amend the Administrative Expense Act of 1946 in several respects (p. 14884). For provisions of the bill see Digest No. 174, item No. 16.
3. ~~RECLAMATION.~~ Passed as reported S. 3517, to authorize the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Vermejo reclamation project, N. Mex. (pp. 14887-8).  
Passed with amendments S. 2195, to authorize the Palisades Dam and Reservoir project, Idaho (pp. 14913, 14927-8).  
Passed without amendment H. R. 8345, to amend the Columbia Basin Project Act with reference to recordable contracts (p. 14877). This bill will now be sent to the President.
4. ~~FOREIGN AFFAIRS.~~ Passed as reported H. J. Res. 334, to amend certain laws providing for membership and participation by the U. S. in certain international organizations, so as to authorize increased contributions by the U. S. (p. 14877). FAO is one of the organizations included in the bill.
5. ~~EDUCATION.~~ Passed with amendments H. R. 7940, to provide for Federal assistance to school districts in areas affected by Federal activities (pp. 14883, 14911, 14946-55).

6. FOREST LANDS. Passed without amendment H. R. 8874, to authorize the sale of a small tract of national forest land to Flagstaff, Ariz. (p. 14883). This bill will now be sent to the President.

7. IRRIGATION. Passed as reported H. R. 163, to authorize Sacramento Valley irrigation canals, Central Valley project, Calif. (p. 14877).

8. FOREIGN AFFAIRS. Passed without amendment H. J. Res. 511, providing for recognition and endorsement of the Inter-American Cultural and Trade Center (p. 14896). This measure will now be sent to the President.

9. FOREIGN TRADE. Passed as reported H. R. 5226, to amend the Tariff Act of 1930, to provide a uniform import rate on calcined bauxite of \$1 per long ton, and to exempt Engelmann spruce lumber from import duties (p. 14888).  
Sen. O'Conor stated that the State Department should keep in mind areas of the country where the economy might be adversely affected by tariff reductions in its negotiation of reciprocal trade agreements (p. 14858).

10. SYNTHETIC LIQUID FUELS. Passed without amendment H. R. 8975, to amend the Synthetic Liquid Fuels Act to extend the Act for 3 years and increase the appropriation authorization (pp. 14925-6). This bill will now be sent to the President.

11. PERSONNEL. Passed as reported S. 4051, to provide for assistance to the blind and other physically handicapped persons in obtaining employment (pp. 14879, 14901-11). In addition to the provisions relating to assistance through the Federal Security Agency, the bill provides for the establishment of a division for employment of disabled persons in the CSC, and establishes a National Advisory Council on Services for Disabled Persons of which the Secretary of Agriculture would be a member ex officio. The bill also provides for the Secretary to cooperate with the Federal Security Administrator in development of working arrangements to achieve coordination of services to the disabled.

12. VETERANS' EDUCATION. Passed with amendment S. Con. Res. 107, interpreting laws relating to tuition costs for education and training of veterans (pp. 14896-901).

13. PURCHASING. By a vote of 30-39, failed to override the President's veto of S. 3906, the proposed War Contractor Relief Act (pp. 14865-71).

14. REORGANIZATION. Sen. McClellan obtained unanimous consent for the Expenditures in Executive Departments to file during the recess or adjournment of Congress a report on the implementation of the Hoover Commission reports and recommendations (p. 14859).

15. WILDLIFE. The Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee reported without amendment H. R. 7524, to authorize the establishment of a wildlife-management area in the Florida Keys, Fla. (S. Rept. 2561) (p. 14858).

16. EXPENDITURES. Sen. Humphrey inserted various letters and statements upholding his position that the Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures should be abolished (pp. 14863-5).

HOUSE

17. SOIL CONSERVATION. Passed without amendment S. 2636, to amend the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act so as to continue until December 31, 1952 the

authority for the agricultural conservation program (p. 14829). This bill will now be sent to the President.

18. RESEARCH STATIONS. Concurred in the Senate amendment to H. R. 5679, to authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located (p. 14830). This bill will now be sent to the President.

19. TAXATION. The Rules Committee reported a resolution to send H. R. 8920, the tax-revision bill, to conference (pp. 14830, 14856).

Rep. Tollocson, Wash., urged that an excess-profits tax be enacted (p. 14833).

Rep. Eberhardt, Pa., discussed the possibility of including a provision for an excess-profits tax in H. R. 8920, and inserted letters and statements on the subject (pp. 14830-4).

20. FORESTS. Passed without amendment S. 1640, to provide for the Chief of Engineers of the Army to serve as an alternate to the Secretary of the Army on the National Forest Reservation Commission (p. 14830). This bill will now be sent to the President.

21. RECLAMATION. The Rules Committee reported a resolution for the consideration of H. R. 5506, to authorize the Palisades Dam and Reservoir project, Idaho (pp. 14831, 14856).

22. UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES. The Rules Committee reported a resolution to send H. R. 9490, the Communist registration bill, to conference (pp. 14856, 14854). Earlier in the day, Rep. Wood asked unanimous consent to send the bill to conference, but Rep. Marcantonio objected (p. 14830).

23. WATER UTILIZATION. Rep. D'Ewart, Mont., inserted a letter and statement regarding the use of the waters of the Belly and Waterton Rivers by the U. S. and Canada (pp. 14833-4).

24. REPORT. Received the 12th Quarterly Report under the Export Control Act (p. 14855).

25. FARM PROGRAM. Rep. Patman, Tex., inserted Speaker Rayburn's recent speech outlining the economic progress of the nation in the past several years, particularly the progress of the farm program, and inserted also several newspaper editorials commenting on the speech (pp. 14840-3).

#### BILLS INTRODUCED

26. SUGAR; FARM LABOR. H. Res. 850, by Rep. Marcantonio, N. Y., "to investigate the exploitation of Puerto Rican labor in the sugar-beet fields of Michigan"; to Rules Committee (p. 14856).

27. FOREIGN TRADE. H. R. 9648, by Rep. White, Calif., to prevent the spread of communism, to protect American industry and labor from goods made by cheap foreign labor, and to provide that U. S. funds appropriated for foreign-aid programs shall not be used to furnish assistance to foreign employers paying wages lower in terms of purchasing power of food and clothing than those paid in the U. S. by similar industries; to Foreign Affairs Committee (p. 14856).

ITEMS IN APPENDIX

28. COFFEE. Sen. Norosc inserted a Portland (Oreg.) Daily Journal editorial suggesting methods to curb the high prices of coffee (pp. A6817-8).

29. DAIRY INDUSTRY. Rep. Crawford, Mich., inserted a Dairy Action League statement urging the continued prohibition of the sale and manufacture of yellow oleo-margarine in Mich. (pp. A6833-4).

30. TOBACCO. Rep. Abbott, Va., inserted his recent address before the Lawrenceville (Va.) Tobacco Festival discussing the growth of the tobacco industry in that area (pp. A6851-2).

31. FORESTRY. Rep. Abbott, Va., inserted a Seaboard Airline Railroad Company's article commending the Society of American Foresters for its work (pp. A6852-3).

32. WATER UTILIZATION. Rep. Aspinall, Colo., inserted John Wills' (Upper Colorado River Basin Commission) statement discussing the development of the Upper Colorado River Basin (pp. A6828-3).  
Rep. Burleson, Tex., inserted a statement to the President's Water Resources Policy Commission discussing recommendations of the State of Tex. for a water policy (pp. A6846-50).

33. TAXATION. Rep. Phillips, Calif., inserted a Riverside (Calif.) Press-Enterprise editorial discussing H. R. 8920, the tax-revision bill and claiming that it is inadequate (p. A6837).

34. SOCIAL SECURITY. Extension of remarks of Rep. Douglas, Calif., explaining the Social Security Amendments Act (pp. A6818-20).

35. BANKING AND CURRENCY. Sen. Douglas, Ill., inserted a lecture by M. S. Szymczak, Federal Reserve Board, discussing the issues involved in determining a monetary policy in peace and war periods (pp. A6808-10).

36. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS. Extension of remarks of Rep. Boykin, Ala., discussing the recent Times-Herald article dealing with the work of the Public Buildings Administration (pp. A6816-7).

COMMITTEE HEARINGS Released by G. P. O.

37. COTTON program. H. Agriculture Committee.

oo

COMMITTEE HEARINGS ANNOUNCEMENTS for Sept. 14: S. Agriculture, meat prices; and Special Committee Investigating the Use of Chemicals in Food Products, chemicals introduced in foods.

oo

38. SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION BILL, 1951. In reporting this bill, H. R. 9526, the Committee added an item to appropriate \$24,500,000 for an animal disease laboratory at Prudence Island, R.I.; and made no change in the items providing \$100,000 for the experiment station at Brawley, Calif., EPISLE, and \$15,000,-000 for production disaster loans, FPLA.



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WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1950

No. 182

## House of Representatives

The House met at 12 o'clock noon.

The Chaplain, Rev. Bernard Bras-kamp, D. D., offered the following prayer:

O Thou Lord God omnipotent, who alone canst supply our temporal needs and satisfy our eternal longings, we are again unburdening ourselves humbly and reverently to Thy listening ear and understanding heart.

Thou knowest how feeble we are in faith, how fickle in fidelity, how dim and distorted our vision of Thy divine greatness and goodness, how we fail to see life in its true perspective, and that we enter hesitatingly and wistfully upon our duties and responsibilities.

Grant that we may avail ourselves more eagerly and confidently of the great moral and spiritual resources when life presses hard upon us with its many trials and tribulations.

Give us the blessed assurance that a day is dawning when the evil and sinister forces of aggression, which are breaking the heart of humanity and blaspheming Thy holy name, shall be supplanted by truth and righteousness, through Christ, our Saviour, we ascribe unto Thee all the praise. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The Journal of the proceedings of Monday, September 11, 1950, was read and approved.

### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Carrell, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed a bill of the following title, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 4135. An act to authorize the President to appoint Gen. Omar N. Bradley to the permanent grade of General of the Army.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed, with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H. R. 9490. An act to protect the United States against certain un-American and subversive activities by requiring registration of Communist organizations, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendments to the foregoing bill, requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. McCARRAN, Mr. EASTLAND, Mr. O'CONOR, Mr. WILEY, and Mr. FERGUSON to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The message also announced that the Vice President has appointed Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina and Mr. LANGER members of the joint select committee on the part of the Senate, as provided for in the act of August 5, 1939, entitled "An act to provide for the disposition of certain records of the United States Government," for the disposition of executive papers referred to in the report of the Archivist of the United States numbered 51-7.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 3921) entitled "An act to provide for the temporary appointment of referees in bankruptcy, and for other purposes."

### SPECIAL ORDER GRANTED

Mr. PATMAN asked and was given permission to address the House today for 30 minutes, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, and to revise and extend his remarks and include certain statements and excerpts.

### AMENDING SOIL CONSERVATION AND DOMESTIC ALLOTMENT ACT

Mr. PACE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the bill (S. 2636) to amend the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

Mr. ARENDS. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, will the gentleman from Georgia kindly give the House some information regarding this bill?

Mr. PACE. Mr. Speaker, section 8 (a) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic

Allotment Act, which is the section providing for the conservation of soil and the soil-building program, will expire on the 31st of December. The bill in question is a bill passed by the other body some weeks ago. The House heretofore passed the identical language extending this section for an additional 2 years. It was a part of what was known as the cotton bill which passed the House about a month ago. The cotton bill was not reported out by the Senate committee, and it does not now appear that it will be. Therefore, the passage of this bill will confirm the action taken by the House about a month ago by extending this section of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, which the House Committee on Agriculture regards as one of the most important features of the farm program, for an additional period of 2 years.

Mr. ARENDS. Then this, in substance, just duplicates the action taken by the House about a month ago?

Mr. PACE. That is correct.

Mr. ARENDS. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

Mr. RANKIN. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, the gentleman says that this affects the Domestic Allotment Act. Does he mean the acreage allotment?

Mr. PACE. It does not. It affects soil conservation and the soil-building program.

Mr. RANKIN. It does not perpetuate the acreage allotments?

Mr. PACE. It does not relate to the question of acreage allotments.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That section 8 (a), as amended, of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, is amended (a) by striking out "January 1, 1951" wherever it appears therein and inserting in lieu thereof "January 1, 1953", and (b) by striking out "December 31, 1950" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1952."

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed,

and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### AGRICULTURAL DRY LAND AND IRRIGATION FIELD STATIONS

Mr. PACE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H. R. 5679) to authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendment, as follows:

Page 2, line 7, strike out "Lawton, Okla."

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

Mr. AREND'S. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, will the gentleman from Georgia explain the amendment?

Mr. PACE. Mr. Speaker, this bill passed the House, as I recall, by unanimous consent. It authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to convey some dry land experiment lands to the respective States. It included among the lands to be conveyed some lands at Lawton, Okla. After the passage of this bill the House, as well as the other body, passed a bill transferring that particular tract of land to the Indian school in Oklahoma. Therefore, the Government no longer owns that tract. The Senate amendment simply strikes out the words "Lawton, Okla.", because that land has already been transferred.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

The Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### NATIONAL FOREST RESERVATION COMMISSION

Mr. PACE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the bill (S. 1640) to amend section 4 of the act of March 1, 1911 (36 Stat. L. 962; 16 U. S. C. 513), relating to membership of the National Forest Reservation Commission.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

Mr. AREND'S. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, will the gentleman explain to the House the contents of this bill?

Mr. PACE. Mr. Speaker, there is now in existence a National Forest Reservation Commission consisting of the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, two Members of the Senate selected by the President, and two Members of the House selected by the Speaker. The Commission is authorized to consider and pass upon such forest, cut-over, and denuded lands that the Secretary of Agriculture may recommend and purchase or fix the price or prices at which such lands may be purchased.

As will be observed, the Secretary of War is now a member of that Commission. Frequently he is not free to serve. What the bill does is simply to provide as an alternate the Chief of Engineers of the Army. The bill merely states in substance that if the Secretary of War cannot serve, then the Chief of Engineers of the Army may serve in his stead as a member of the Commission.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That section 4 of the act of March 1, 1911 (36 Stat. L. 962, 16 U. S. C. 513), is hereby amended by deleting the comma appearing immediately after the term "Secretary of War" and inserting after the mentioned term the words "or as an alternate, the Chief of Engineers of the Army".

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### COMMITTEE ON RULES

Mr. PRIEST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules may have until midnight tonight to file certain reports.

Mr. MARCANTONIO. I object, Mr. Speaker.

#### CALL OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Georgia [Mr. Wood] is recognized.

Mr. MARCANTONIO. Mr. Speaker, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

Mr. PRIEST. Mr. Speaker, I move a call of the House.

A call of the House was ordered.

The Clerk called the roll, and the following Members failed to answer to their names:

[Roll No. 270]

|                  |               |                 |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Addonizio        | Denton        | Holmes          |
| Allen, La.       | Dingell       | Howell          |
| Anderson, Calif. | Dollinger     | Jackson, Calif. |
| Andresen,        | Dondero       | Javits          |
| August H.        | Donohue       | Jenlson         |
| Angel            | Douglas       | Jennings        |
| Auchincloss      | Doyle         | Johnson         |
| Bailey           | Eaton         | Kean            |
| Barrett, Pa.     | Ellsworth     | Keefe           |
| Barrett, Wyo.    | Elston        | Kelley, Pa.     |
| Bates, Ky.       | Engel, Mich.  | Kelly, N. Y.    |
| Bennett, Mich.   | Fallon        | Kennedy         |
| Bentsen          | Fernandez     | Kerr            |
| Blackney         | Flood         | King            |
| Blatnick         | Fogarty       | Klein           |
| Boggs, La.       | Ford          | Kunkel          |
| Boiling          | Gamble        | Larcade         |
| Bosone           | Gavin         | Lichtenwalter   |
| Breen            | Gillette      | Linehan         |
| Brooks           | Goodwin       | Lodge           |
| Buchanan         | Gordon        | Lovre           |
| Buckley, Ill.    | Gore          | Lyle            |
| Eckley, N. Y.    | Gregory       | McCarthy        |
| Burton           | Guill         | Mccormack       |
| Byrne, N. Y.     | Hagen         | McGuire         |
| Cannon           | Hale          | McMullen, Ill.  |
| Carnahan         | Hall,         | Mack, Wash.     |
| Carroll          | Edwln Arthur  | Macy            |
| Case, S. Dak.    | Hall,         | Martin, Iowa    |
| Cavalacante      | Leonard W.    | Martin, Mass.   |
| Celler           | Halleck       | Merrow          |
| Christopher      | Hand          | Michener        |
| Chudoff          | Harden        | Miller, Calif.  |
| Cole, Kans.      | Havenner      | Miller, Md.     |
| Colmer           | Hébert        | Mitchell        |
| Cooley           | Heffernan     | Monroney        |
| Coudert          | Heller        | Morrison        |
| Crawford         | Herter        | Morton          |
| Cunningham       | Hill          | Moulder         |
| Curtis           | Hoeven        | Multer          |
| Davies, N. Y.    | Hoffman, Ill. | Murray, Tenn.   |
| Davis, Wls.      | Hollifield    | Nelson          |

|                 |               |               |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Nixon           | Reed, Ill.    | Taylor        |
| Norton          | Rees          | Thomas        |
| O'Brien, Mich.  | Richards      | Thornberry    |
| O'Konski        | Riehman       | Underwood     |
| O'Neill         | Rivers        | Vorys         |
| O'Sullivan      | Rodino        | Vursell       |
| Patten          | Rooney        | Wagner        |
| Patterson       | Roosevelt     | Werdel        |
| Pfeifer,        | Sadlak        | Whitaker      |
| Joseph L.       | Sadowski      | White, Idaho  |
| William L.      | Scott, Hardle | Widnall       |
|                 | Scrivner      | Wler          |
| Philbin         | Scudder       | Wigglesworth  |
| Phillips, Tenn. | Shelley       | Willis        |
| Plumley         | Sikes         | Wilson, Ind.  |
| Poage           | Smith, Ohio   | Wilson, Okla. |
| Potter          | Smith, Wis.   | Withrow       |
| Poulson         | Stanley       | Wolcott       |
| Powell          | Stockman      | Yates         |
| Quinn           | Taber         | Young         |
| Rabaut          | Talle         | Zablocki      |

The SPEAKER. On this roll call 239 Members have answered to their names, a quorum.

By unanimous consent, further proceedings under the call were dispensed with.

#### REGISTRATION OF COMMUNIST ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. WOOD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H. R. 9490) to protect the United States against certain un-American and subversive activities by requiring registration of Communist organizations, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

Mr. MARCANTONIO. Mr. Speaker, I object.

#### REDUCING EXCISE TAXES

Mr. SABATH, from the Committee on Rules, reported the following privileged resolutions (H. Res. 842, Rept. No. 3057), which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed:

*Resolved*, That immediately upon the adoption of this resolution the bill (H. R. 8920) to reduce excise taxes, and for other purposes, with Senate amendments thereto, be, and the same is hereby taken from the Speaker's tables; that the Senate amendments be, and they are hereby, disagreed to; that the conference requested by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the said bill be, and hereby is, agreed to; and that the Speaker shall immediately appoint conferees without intervening motion.

#### REHABILITATION OF THE FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES AND OTHER INDIANS OF EASTERN OKLAHOMA

Mr. SABATH, from the Committee on Rules, reported the following privileged resolution (H. Res. 843, Rept. No. 3058), which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed:

*Resolved*, That immediately upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to move that the House resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H. R. 9219) to promote the rehabilitation of the Five Civilized Tribes and other Indians of eastern Oklahoma, and for other purposes. That after general debate, which shall be confined to the bill and continue not to exceed 1 hour, to be equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Public Lands, the bill shall be read for amendment under the 5-minute rule. At the conclusion





[PUBLIC LAW 825—81ST CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 1005—2D SESSION]

[H. R. 5679]

AN ACT

To authorize the transfer of certain agricultural dry land and irrigation field stations to the States in which such stations are located, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized, at such times as he deems appropriate, to convey by appropriate conveyances, without consideration, the interest of the United States in the lands, including water rights, buildings, and improvements presently comprising or appurtenant to the following dry land and irrigation field stations, to the States in which such stations are located, when, in the opinion of the Secretary of Agriculture, the transfer of any such station will result in establishing a more effective program in the cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Department of Agriculture and the respective State and the furtherance of agricultural experimental work on a national or regional basis will be better served by such transfer: Huntley, Montana; Mitchell, Nebraska; Fallon, Nevada; Tucumcari, New Mexico; Hermiston, Oregon; Sheridan, Wyoming: *Provided*, That when any or all of the land, including water rights, comprising any such station is public-domain land, only the Secretary of the Interior may by patent or other appropriate conveyance transfer such lands to the respective States: *Provided further*, That when any easement necessary to a station conveyed or patented hereunder is on public-domain lands, only the Secretary of the Interior may grant such easements to the State to which the station has been conveyed.

SEC. 2. Conveyances or patents hereunder shall be upon such conditions as in the opinion of the Secretary of Agriculture will assure the use of such station in the cooperative agricultural experimental work of the Department of Agriculture and the respective State. Any such conveyances of the land shall contain a reservation to the United States of all the minerals in the land together with the right to prospect for, mine, and remove the same under such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe.

Approved September 23, 1950.

